

THE ACADEMY.

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1882.

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WILLIAM HENRY STONE, Esq., in the Chair.

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They recommend the payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year, which will absorb £150,000. This amount, with £59,817 17s. 9d., rebate on bills not due, and £9,375 reserved to meet interest accrued on new shares to 31st December, will leave a balance of £42,695 12s. 1d. to be carried forward to profit and loss new account. The present dividend, added to that paid to 30th June, makes 20 per cent. for the year 1881.

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Instalment received in respect of new Capital	249,510	0	0	1,749,510	0	0
To Reserve Fund	750,000	0	0			
Instalment received in respect of new Capital	124,755	0	0	874,755	0	0
To Due by the Bank on Current Accounts, on Deposit Accounts, with Interest accrued, Circular Notes, &c.				25,084,644	15	4
To Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Cash or Securities or Bankers' Guarantees				2,204,120	2	8
To Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account	38,265	18	5			
To Net Profit for the Half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and transferring £20,000 to Premises' Account	223,622	11	8	261,888	9	10
				£30,174,918	7	10

Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Cash at the Head Office and Branches, and with Bank of England	3,652,280	12	1			
By Loans at Call and at Notice, covered by Securities	2,904,062	17	5	6,556,342	9	6
Investments, viz.— By Consols registered and in Certificates, and New 3 per Cents., £5,331,251 7s. 11d., Canada 4 per Cent. Bonds and Turkish 4 per Cent. Bonds guaranteed by the British Government	3,768,207	0	5			
By India Government Debentures	56,130	0	0			
By English Railway Debenture Stock and Colonial Bonds	226,900	0	0			
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By Discounted Bills Current	9,987,749	10	3			
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PROFIT and LOSS ACCOUNT.

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To Salaries and all other Expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income-tax on Profits and Salaries	155,627	18	6
To Transferred to the credit of Premises' Account	20,000	0	0
To Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account	59,817	17	9
To Dividend of 10 per cent. for the Half-year	150,000	0	0
To Reserve to meet Interest accrued on New Shares	9,375	0	0
To Balance carried forward	42,695	12	1
	261,888	9	10
By Balance brought forward from last account	33,265	18	5
By Gross Profit for the Half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts	507,430	13	11
	£545,696	12	4

Examined and audited by us,

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We have examined the foregoing Balance-sheet, have verified the Cash Balance at the Bank of England, the Stocks there registered, and the other investments of the Bank, and have examined the several Books and Vouchers, showing the Cash Balances, Bills, and other amounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and we are of opinion this balance-sheet is full and fair, properly drawn up, and exhibits a true and correct view of the Company's affairs as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed) M. MCGEORGE, WILLIAM NORMAN, RICHARD H. SWAINE, Auditors.
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LITERATURE.

The Lusiads. Vols. III. and IV. ("Life of Camoens and Commentaries.") By R. F. Burton. (Quaritch.)

CAPT. BURTON recalls the Englishmen of past times who could be at once poets, learned scholars, and daring soldiers or explorers; but I think it must be said that he has excelled his predecessors. The splendid version of the great Portuguese poem—*The Lusiads* of Camoens (reviewed in the ACADEMY of June 28, 1881)—has marked him as a poet. He now once more, but in a different way to his former learned works, has written a book of vast and solid erudition, and has thus shown decisively that he is historian, philologist, and bibliographer. His unrivalled feats as a traveller have given him the insight necessary to explain what Camoens drew from his experiences in the Far East. These two volumes exhaust the great epic of India for all who read English, and conclude a final edition which may possibly be added to by future discoveries, but can never be surpassed.

One of the first requisites for the understanding and due appreciation of Camoens' poem is a Life of the poet. But this is a task of unusual difficulty. As little is known about him as is known about Shakspeare; hardly a fact is certain, not even the date of his birth or death. There can, unhappily, be little doubt that the great poet's life was a miserable one. The Life given here occupies 115 pages of the third volume. Not a single source of information, however small and obscure, has been neglected; and all that is known is for the first time presented in a most attractive form—thanks to Capt. Burton's intimate acquaintance with the scenes where the chief events of the poet's life occurred. Nearly 100 pages of a most complete bibliography follow, and this includes much new information respecting former English translations of the poem, and a genial appreciation of them. This part is the more valuable as ignorant fanaticism has meddled with the poem and persecuted such a worthy editor as Faria y Sousa. Capt. Burton has most accurately defined the difficulties that thus arise. The rest of the third volume contains a fresh and striking sketch of the history of Portugal, which illustrates fully the poet's times, as well as explains the perpetual historical allusions in the poem. The first part of the next (fourth) volume contains a most complete essay on the geography of the poem and on the travels of Camoens. The rest is occupied by ex-

planatory notes on the many difficult passages in the poem. It will thus be clear that Capt. Burton's great work contains much that few could venture even to appreciate, and I certainly am not one of those few. It is a monument of erudition, as well as of his unrivalled knowledge of all parts of the world. Mrs. Burton has added to the last volume a brilliant and conclusive reply to some silly remarks made lately on the translation. It might have, as motto, the words of the old Italian Carnival song which Scioppiettieri (fusiliers) address to the ladies:—

"Rari usar trassinar già gli Scioppietti,
Oggi ognun vuole usargli;
Ma presto appajon, donne, i lor difetti,

Che son pericolosi. . . ."

I will, however, venture to notice a few points and some possible misprints in the hope that I may thus save the author some little trouble in his next edition. That he wrote in Trieste is sufficient to account for any misprints; that, without books, and having to rely on his memory, he could be so accurate is surprising. The book is beautifully printed.

Several books are cited as "Hakluyt's": this must be a misprint for "Hakluyt S."—i.e., the Hakluyt Society edition or translation, as these are not to be found, so far as my memory serves me (for I also write in a small Italian town where such books are not to be found), in Hakluyt's folios.

In the bibliographical part I do not find mention of Reinhardtstoettner's recent critical edition of the poem (Strassburg: K. J. Trübner, 1875). This learned editor is also the author of the best scientific grammar of Portuguese, in which he has made much use of the *Lusiads*. His edition is a very careful and good one; but, if the explanatory Index at the end be scrutinised, Capt. Burton's merits in this way will appear the greater, as it contains many errors and deficiencies. In fact, anyone unacquainted with Africa and the East could not possibly do such work.

On p. 211 of the third volume Capt. Burton explains the -ez or -es of Portuguese names (e.g., Henriquez, Lopez, &c.—i.e., son of Henry, of Lope) as Basque; but, if so, it is, apart from admittedly Basque words, the only trace of the kind in Spanish and Portuguese, and therefore seems unlikely. May it not be compared with such Latin forms as "Medices," which occur in old Italian texts? If so, it cannot be Basque. Reinhardtstoettner (*Grammar*, pp. 161, 162, and note) explains it by the Gothic genitive—is, as Diez suggested; and this seems more likely.

On p. 273 of the same volume the author explains the original name of Brazil ("Sancta Cruz") as being given from the "Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (May 3)." But, though this is Correa's account, and is supported by the fact that there are many instances of the newly discovered lands being named by the Portuguese from the day on which they were first seen—e.g., Natal and San Lourenço (or Madagascar)—there is some reason to believe that this was not done on this occasion; but that Cabral's fleet had already left on May 2, 1500, and that the

name was taken from a cross of wood or stone—authorities differ—which Cabral caused to be set up. At least, this is what King Emanuel wrote in 1505; he says that the land was called S. Croce (his letter exists only in an Italian version) because "he [Cabral] had caused a very high cross to be erected on the shore." Correa is the most careless and imaginative of the Portuguese historians, and evidently listened to any idle story he heard without asking for proof.

P. 275. The name of "Cochin" is properly "Köechi," not "Káechi." The Portuguese (as in countless other words they adopted) added, eventually, the final nasal n. In the "Obedientia" (of King Emanuel to Pope Julius II. in 1505) the name appears as "Coxi," which (giving "x" its Portuguese pronunciation) exactly represents the Malayalam name. Capt. Burton (vol. iii., p. 313) mentions the old cathedral of Cochin. The English destroyed all but a tower, which last relic was barbarously pulled down in 1874.

P. 276. The author explains the name of Mount Delli (i.e., D'elli, the well-known and conspicuous hill on the Malabar coast) by "cardamoms." But the name in Malayalam is *Ēli-mala* (or "High hill"), which Indian pedants corrupted into *Ēla-mala* (or "Seven hills") and *Ēli-mala* (or "Rat-hill"), and invented silly legends to account for such names. There are no cardamoms to be found there, or even near it; and, if it were called after that spice, the name would have had a very different form.

P. 306. Have not Egyptologists traced "coco" (nut) as an Egyptian word under the form "kuku"?

To fairly notice these volumes, it would now be necessary to mention some of the new facts of importance, and the results at which Capt. Burton has arrived; but to do so would be to make extracts from every page. As might be expected, all the geographical questions are fully explained. To the many who still believe in the myth of the visit of St. Thomas the Apostle to South India, the note on canto x. 108-18 will supply much new information. Capt. Burton asks what became of the supposed body of St. Thomas, which was believed to have been found in 1524. Maffei (in his *Historia Indica*, original edition of 1588, p. 160) says it was hidden in a place only known to two Portuguese, and that (? in 1552) it was taken by a Franciscan to Goa. If this be compared with the account given by the Jesuit Sousa (*Oriente Conquistado*, i., § 137), there can be little doubt that the supposed relics were stolen, and, probably, lost.

In a note to canto vii. 12, there is a very valuable brief history of fire-arms, in which the silly idea that they were invented in India is decisively negatived. The literature of this question (chiefly by Renaud and Favé) is not very extensive, and is easily accessible; the least acquaintance with it would preclude such errors. It is obvious that the words which now mean guns, &c., have formerly had totally different meanings, and that it is highly uncritical to hold the contrary view.

The whole of these volumes is marked by an admirably patriotic tone, which forms a

refreshing contrast to the sentimental nonsense which it is the fashion to write about the East. It is to be hoped that imitators will spring up who will try to ascertain the truth about India, and will also duly praise the great deeds done there by the Portuguese, Dutch, French, and even English.

Capt. Burton has occasionally touched on political questions here, and many will hope that he will, in another edition, expand these remarks. Camoens (x. 119) mentions the missionaries of his time; and an estimate of the Indian missions of the present day by Capt. Burton, and especially of their so-called translations of the Bible, would not be altogether out of place in the notes on this canto. Such a master of the art of translating could, in a few lines, appreciate justly these pretended versions. In the Indian languages, the representatives of European theological terms are mostly due to the Catholic missionaries of the sixteenth century, who took them from the Indian metaphysico-religious systems, which they could not then have fully understood, if it be ever possible to understand them. However, they wisely did not pretend to translate their books. A Brahman to whom I once showed one of these versions said: "I know the words, but cannot make any sense of them as put together here." But the difficulty is not only with the technical words; there is much besides that cannot be translated. An eminent philologist told me a story he heard from the greatest master of the Malayan and Javanese languages which will make this plain. In one of the Dutch islands sheep were unknown till the Dutch introduced some; the people had goats already, and termed the importations "Dutch goats." A missionary then translated "Lamb of God" by "Son of the Dutch goat of God"! That the converts pay little attention to these versions is certain, or heresies would arise in the same way as Manichæism did.

Again, a comparison of the excellent system of the Dutch with that of the English in India would be of the greatest value if by Capt. Burton. He gives so much that every reader of his works will not hesitate to demand more.

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"go right across Asia, and leave so many copies of Scripture as would suffice for putting at least a New Testament or a copy of the Gospels in every room of every prison, and in every

ward of every hospital throughout the whole of Siberia! As I look back upon it now," he continues, "as an accomplished fact, the matter seems ordinary enough; but when the thought came into my mind it looked like a consummation far beyond anything I had hoped to accomplish, and a result which, if it might be compassed, would be a cause of thankfulness for the rest of my life."

Mr. Lansdell started from London in the April of 1879, and returned via San Francisco to Liverpool, having compassed the world in nearly a straight line of 25,500 miles, and having, moreover, distributed upwards of one hundred thousand tracts. One of the results of his journey is the work, in two handsome volumes, now before us, which cannot be too highly praised. The pictures, though effective, are not always in keeping with the excellence of the text; those of Moscow, for instance, are libels on that city.

Means of locomotion are still in a primitive state in Siberia, and the roads are nearly all in the condition in which Gen. Wade is said to have found those of Scotland. Of travelling under such circumstances we give the following extract:—

"When you propose to travel 'post' in Russia, your first business is to get a *podorojna*, or permit, of which there are three kinds. The first is a 'courier's' *podorojna*, which is used by passengers travelling in hot haste upon important—generally Government—business. East postmaster reserves three horses in case a courier should arrive, in which event only a certain number of minutes is allowed for changing the horses, and away goes the courier at breathless speed. Not long before my visit, an exile, condemned to the east, had reached the city of Tomsk, a distance of nearly 3,000 miles from the capital, when for some reason his presence was required by the authorities in Petersburg. They telegraphed, therefore, that he was to be brought back *couriersky*; whereupon, he was placed between two gendarmes, and then over the stones they rattled the bones of that unfortunate man, till in eleven days they brought him to his destination. This sort of *podorojna* is reserved for special messengers and persons of importance; but, after hearing the foregoing story, I came to the conclusion that it is not everyone who would appreciate the privilege of travelling *couriersky*. Number 2 is a 'crown' *podorojna*, recognised by those post-boys who cannot read by its having two seals. This is not paid for. . . . *Podorojna* number 3 is that used by ordinary travellers, for which, at the outset, you have to pay, by way of tax, a trifling amount per verst, according to the distance you intend to travel. And now, having secured your *podorojna*, your next concern is for a vehicle. If you simply take that to which your *podorojna* entitles you, it will be a roofless, seatless, springless, semi-cylindrical tumbrel, mounted on poles, which connect two wooden axle-trees, and out of this at every station you will have to shift yourself and your baggage. This is called travelling *percladnoi*. From such a fate, gentle reader, may you be delivered! No, better buy a conveyance of your own. The vehicle I have alluded to is called by the general name of *tarantass*. The one you will purchase, though in many respects similar, and by some called also a *tarantass*, will be dignified by the post-boys with the appellation of an 'equipe.' Like the other, it will be mounted on poles for springs, but the axles and body of the carriage will be of iron, and it will have a seat for the driver, and a hood, with a curtain and apron, under which you may sit by day and wherein you can sleep by night. . . .

The packing of the vehicle requires nothing short of a Siberian education. Avoid boxes as you would the plague! The edges and corners will cruelly bruise your back and legs. Choose rather flat portmanteaus and soft bags, and spread them on a layer of hay at the bottom of the *tarantass*. Then put over them a thin mattress, and next a hearth-rug. . . . Next, put at the back of the carriage two or more pillows of the softest down, for which please send on your order in advance, because these must be bought as opportunity offers."

Mr. Lansdell is discreetly silent as to the entomological resources of Russian village inns, of which we ourselves cherish a vivid remembrance after nights spent in Russian villages.

The author arrived at Irkoutsk just at the time of the great fire there, and he gives a graphic description of the state of affairs. By a remarkable coincidence, he entered the town the very day on which the fire burst out, and was thus enabled to leave it before the conflagration had become general. When the flames had subsided, he came back to look at the ruins they had left.

"We now saw something of the condition of the people who had fled to the bank of the river on the previous day, with such effects as they could save. Here were gentle-folks 'camped out' under chests of drawers, tables, and boxes arranged in the best manner possible in the open air—sheets being used for walls, and curtains for coverings. Ikons from churches were lying about; likewise tables heaped with philosophical instruments from the High School; and carts filled with moveables. The instruments from the telegraph stations were standing by a post, to which paper streamers were fastened to intimate that this was the temporary telegraph office. The people's demeanour, however, was in strange contrast with their pitiable condition, for many, having saved their samovars, were drinking afternoon tea, and on all sides were joking and laughing at their comical situation. . . . Great credit was due to the officials for the prompt manner in which they attempted the relief of distress. The fire was scarcely extinguished before a committee was formed, and some of the merchants laid down large sums."

Naturally, Mr. Lansdell took a great interest in the administration of the prisons which he visited in Siberia. He had read of thrilling horrors practised in those Northern climes—of men flogged to death with whips to which hooks had been attached, of Cossacks urging on their prisoners with long lances, &c., &c., &c. Thanks to letters of introduction to high officials, and thanks to the kind reception he invariably met with in high quarters, he was enabled to investigate the subject thoroughly; and the result of these investigations he sums up thus:—

"On the whole, my conviction is that if a Russian exile behaves himself decently well he may in Siberia be more comfortable than in many, and as comfortable as in most, of the prisons of the world."

It appears that political prisoners form a very small minority.

"As to the crimes of the exiles, they are not all political, nor even chiefly so. A large proportion—4,000 out of 18,000, or say twenty per cent.—of them are charged with no particular offence, except that they have rendered themselves obnoxious to the community among which they lived. If a man in Russia be idle and drunken, and will not pay

his taxes nor support his wife and family, but leaves these things to be done by his neighbours, his commune—which may consist of one or more villages—meet in their *mir*, or village parliament, vote the man a nuisance, and adjudge that he be sent, at their expense, to Siberia. This judgment is submitted to higher authorities, and, unless just cause be shown to the contrary, is confirmed. The man is then taken to Siberia, not to be imprisoned, but to get his living as a colonist. Those sent thus by villages, I was told, are chiefly drunkards. . . . A stranger, however, who believes every exile who calls himself a 'political' may easily be misled. To be a 'political' prisoner in Siberia is to be more or less of a gentleman, and many try thus to pass themselves off. Mr. Ashton Dilke, M.P., who travelled some years ago in Southern Siberia and spoke Russian, has told me that, on asking gangs of convicts if they had any politicals or 'gentlemen' prisoners among them, they usually said 'No'; and that in the case of one man who imposed upon him, and tried to palm himself off as a 'political,' the governor showed Mr. Dilke the man's papers, which described him as a criminal, a thief, &c."

Here is an interesting account of Siberian prison diet and discipline:—

"At Tiumen each man was said to receive daily 2½ lb. (Russian) of bread, ½ lb. of meat on ordinary days, and ¾ lb. on holidays, with salt, pepper, &c.; also a daily allowance of quass for drink. . . . I am not aware that the authorities permit the prisoners any amusements, though it has been already intimated that they find them themselves—sometimes in the shape of cards, with which, if report be true, having nothing else to play for, they gamble away their food."

Fabulous numbers are supposed in England to be annually deported to Siberia, and it is generally believed that the greater part of the population of Poland has been transplanted thither. Such errors are best corrected by figures; and Mr. Lansdell is able to tell us that the number of Polish criminal prisoners sent to Siberia in 1879 was 898, and in 1880, 270. Besides, he affirms that there is no accommodation for the enormous numbers of exiles, as many as 40,000, estimated by some writers, and that it would be next to impossible to convey such numbers thither for want of means of transport.

Most people who take an interest in Siberia have heard of the mines of Nertchinsk—those terrible quicksilver mines to which refined young ladies, hardened ruffians, and sickly youths are all sent alike to rot among the vapours of the poisonous mercury! Harrowing tales are told of the tragedies enacted there. When announcements are seen in our newspapers to the effect that a fresh batch of Nihilists has been sent to Siberia, those mines of Nertchinsk present themselves to the imagination of a sympathetic public, and the righteous indignation of a liberty- and justice-loving nation are prepared to rise up in judgment against a Government that can practise such cruelties. Mr. Lansdell was therefore particularly anxious to visit these iniquitous mines. He went to Nertchinsk, and thoroughly investigated the place—but he shall speak for himself.

"Now it is somewhat remarkable that I have been unable to learn that there is a quicksilver mine in Siberia at all, or to get satisfactory proof that one ever existed. This may surprise my

readers, but I proceed to explain myself thus:—The *English Cyclopædia*, under the article 'Mercury,' mentions various places where this mineral is found, but says nothing of Siberia. Yet surely if mines exist there, affording employment for numerous labourers, we ought to hear something of their output. Again, in *Ure's Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines*, a standard book on mining, (p. 120) we find a good deal concerning the mines of Siberia, of those of the Urals, the Altai, and Daouria (which last comprise those about Nertchinsk), but nothing is said of quicksilver mines in any one of these regions. Again, Mr. Atkinson, who spent several years in Asiatic Russia, went to the district of Nertchinsk, and had friends among the mining engineers, says: 'Tin and zinc ores are found, but neither have as yet been worked, and I am not aware of the existence of quicksilver, though it is said to be found in these regions.' . . . To these testimonies I may add my own, that neither in the town of Nertchinsk, through which we passed, nor in the neighbourhood, nor indeed throughout Siberia, did we anywhere hear of a quicksilver mine."

The author might have further stated that in the *Appendix to Ure's Dictionary* statistics are given of the exports of Californian mercury into Asiatic Russia. Surely Asiatic Russia, with its scanty population, would have no need to import this mineral if it already possessed it in large quantities. Before such a host of evidence, those quicksilver mines of Nertchinsk, so cherished by the sensationalist, must now be regarded as purely mythical. Silver mines there are, but that is a very different matter; and though working in mines of any kind can hardly be recommended as a salubrious occupation, still silver mines have nothing especially objectionable about them—they do not involve the rotting of those who work in them.

Mr. Lansdell, though giving an accurate description of Siberian prison and convict life, has not restricted himself to this subject. He is a good observer, and has kept his eyes open. His book is full of interesting, valuable, and amusing information. When needful, he brings in statistics to bear out his statements; and these volumes show evidence throughout of painstaking work and careful research. Yet Mr. Lansdell is never tedious; and we are of opinion that *Through Siberia* is much more entertaining, and certainly more readable, than many novels.

E. A. BRAYLEY HODGETTS.

Representative Government in England: its Faults and Failures. By David Syme. (Kegan Paul, Trench and Co.)

THIS is an interesting book, and its readers will increase every day now that a new Reform Bill with a redistribution of electoral power is regarded as the goal of the present Parliament. Our only quarrel with Mr. Syme will be on the ground that his work is not more useful, as it might so easily have been made with a larger and more concentrated study of the subject. As a survey of the present foundations of representative government in England, it is too superficial for the historical student, and hardly so full of references and of facts and figures as the politicians of the next two or three years would desire. Mr. Syme is not an indiscriminating admirer of

our electoral system or of government by party. His work does, however, show us plainly that, with regard to the present case, the reform of the county franchise cannot yet be regarded as a Ministerial question. Just now it is, properly speaking, in the stage when a question is for Ministers deemed "an open question," because there has been no declaration by the Government, as a Government, on the subject. His pages will not lead to any blind confidence that a great measure of reform and redistribution can be carried almost as soon as it is introduced. Mr. Syme tells us, in his Introduction, that, "in the first place, any important scheme of reform must be adopted by the Government of the day, and there is always a great difficulty in getting any Government to commit themselves to any scheme, no matter how desirous they may be to secure popular favour. In the second place, a measure of this kind must have the unanimous approval of all the members of the Ministry. Government by party does not permit differences of opinion on the part of Ministers on any great questions; and the difficulty of finding unanimity on all the essential points of any important measure is enormous, has often proved insurmountable, and, even when it has been overcome, it has usually led to a break up and reconstruction of the Government."

The beginning of English Parliament, properly so-called, was in 1295, when for the first time representatives from the cities and boroughs, as well as from the counties, were summoned to Westminster by writs much in the form now adopted. The writs for this Parliament are still in existence, and show that the Commons had even then acquired some considerable powers. But their presence was tolerated rather than welcomed by the hereditary legislators. There are forms of Parliament, still held good, handed down from those times, which mark the very wide difference of authority then established between the two Houses. The judicial functions belonged exclusively to the Lords; but even in matters of legislation the powers of the Commons were not regarded, in the first instance, as co-extensive with those which belonged to the hereditary chamber. They were expected to assent to what the Lords proposed rather than to initiate legislation for themselves. There has been an almost complete transfer in this all-important respect. But it must not be supposed that in the earliest of English Parliaments, in what is historically called the present form, the claim of the Commons was the same as it is to-day. The members of nearly 600 years ago appeared at Westminster rather as witnesses than as representatives. They came from their boroughs and counties to inform the King of the state of the country and of the views and wants of certain classes and orders of society. So strictly was this character preserved that the writs directed the sheriffs and mayors to return residents only; no man was eligible who did not reside in the county, city, or borough which elected him. This condition was regarded for a long time as essential. In the reign of Henry VIII. relaxation commenced, and soon after the close of the Tudor dynasty non-resident representatives began to be common; but the law was not altered until the statute of

14 Geo. III. c. 58 formally repealed the restriction of residence both as to voters and members. All the representatives in the early Parliaments were paid their "wages" and expenses from the day they left for Parliament till the day they returned to their constituents. Some time before the middle of the sixteenth century, many representatives had ceased to accept payment; and from a debate in the Parliament of 27 Charles II. we learn that the practice of paying representatives had been generally abandoned. But no Act was ever passed for its abolition. Perhaps it was some lingering survival of this practice which Mr. Disraeli mistook for open bribery of members when he said, in 1848, in the House of Commons:

"Why, before the American War—a period not yet very remote—the Secretary of the Treasury used to sit at the gangway, and, at a stated period of the session, the end or the beginning, gave in the House to the members who supported Government a routine *douceur* of a £500 note; which was as little looked upon as bribery as head-money by a freeman. [A voice: Walpole!] No, no; much later than Walpole, and quite distinct from secret bribery. It was a practice which the manners of the age and the low tone of public feeling permitted."

There can be no doubt that women voted as freeholders in the election of the early Parliaments, nor that there was maintained a distinct separation of classes within the walls of Parliament. It will, however, be well that we should break off from the interesting threads of history which are interwoven with Mr. Syme's text, and hasten to an examination, which must be very brief, of his striking conclusions, involving an abrupt departure from the present lines of parliamentary government. Mr. Syme traces the development of the power of the electors, and desires to make it more complete. He appears to think, and many will agree with him, that the popular control was seriously affected by the Septennial Act. He argues that popular government can only exist where the people control their representatives at all times and under any circumstances; and therefore he would recognise to the fullest extent the right of the constituent body, not only to elect, but to instruct and, if necessary, to dismiss their representatives at any time they may think proper. He maintains that "a representative cannot reasonably complain if he is treated no worse than a Minister of the Crown, or no better than the assembly to which he considers it an honour to belong." Mr. Syme maintains that, if this "true principle of representation" were adopted, "Parliament would become a living organism, in which the process of secretion and accretion would be continually going on, an organism in which there could be no decay, as all its parts would be in a perpetual state of renewal." His system would involve very tremendous changes; and he does not give us in detail any sketch of the machinery by which a member would be called on to submit to a test vote as to whether he was or was not a representative. Yet it is, of course, essential to know by what number of electors a poll could at any time be demanded, and how often and with what intervals the process might be repeated. But this change (which, we may predict, will not be adopted by any Parliament) is by no

means the greatest novelty which Mr. Syme has to suggest. His largest proposition is the nomination of the Executive by Parliament, which includes the abolition of government. Mr. Syme contends that this would

"bring about a vast and beneficial change in the government of the country. It would put an end to the dominating influence of the Premier, and destroy the unity of the Cabinet. Parliament could then remove at pleasure any Minister whose conduct it disapproved of. It would have the selection of Ministers in its own hands, and the best men from both sides of the House would be eligible for office in the same way as the Speaker is now. The selection would not be from one section of Parliament, but from all sections, and the Ministry would represent all shades of opinion."

It would have been better, perhaps, if Mr. Syme had given us a useful and handy history of representative government in England, free from wild suggestions of this sort. He concludes his work with recommending a fluctuating Parliament—a Cabinet which could not deliberate, an Executive which must be always more or less in confusion, and he deprives the Sovereignty of the Crown of almost every plea for continued existence. We may be wrong, but it seems to us the wiser conclusion from Mr. Syme's interesting historical premises would have been that, to secure parliamentary authority and to give a definite object to public opinion, it is expedient that a term should be assigned for the duration of Parliament; and that, if only to obtain the reasonable and efficient co-operation of Ministers in executive administration, it is absolutely necessary that they should have the largest possible political sympathy with each other, and should be liable to the censure of Parliament, but should not be the creatures of its direct appointment. At present, however, any suggestions for parliamentary reform, however wide of the true mark, may have utility in leading to consideration and discussion upon a theme which is destined to occupy with no great delay, and it may be to engross, the public mind. Yet we must confess that within the limits of Mr. Syme's work there is not too much space for a chronicle of the leading facts of our representative government which at present could not be regarded as other than most opportune.

ARTHUR ARNOLD.

Dante's Inferno. Translated into Greek Verse by Musurus Pasha, D.C.L. [*Δάντου ὁ Ἀδης, μετάφρασις Κωνσταντίνου Μουσούρου.*] (Williams & Norgate.)

THIS book forms a remarkable addition to the collection of translations of the "Divine Comedy" which have appeared in different languages. The number and variety of the renderings of the poem which we already possess is, indeed, astonishing, including, among others, versions in Russian, Danish, Polish, Hungarian, and Hebrew; and now the *Inferno* is presented to us, translated—and, we may at once add, faithfully and felicitously translated—into Greek. An additional element of interest attaches to the present work from the position of the translator, who, we believe, is descended from an ancient Cretan family, and has long been

the representative of the Ottoman Porte in England. In one part of his book a startling result arises from this, for which it may be as well to prepare the reader. Among the schismatics, in the ninth *bolgia*, Dante has placed Mahomet. With astonishment we find that Musurus Pasha, in translating this passage, has delivered the prophet from the place of punishment, and has substituted Arius for him, so that the line

"Vedi come storpiato è Maometto"

is rendered in Greek by

"Ὡς κατὰ πῶς ἐστὶν Ἀρείος βλάβε."

The following explanation is appended in a note:—

"Out of respect for the numerous Mussulman peoples, many millions of whom dwell peacefully under the Ottoman rule along with their Christian fellow-subjects, I have thought it hardly unsuitable, in the place of Mahomet, whom the poet has quite unreasonably subjected to degrading torments in the *bolgia* of the schismatics, to substitute Arius, the great heresiarch, who, being a Christian and a priest, introduced into Christendom, by means of his doctrine contradicting the consubstantial divinity of Christ, that pernicious schism which rent the Church for many years, though it has long since died out."

He then proceeds, on just grounds, to defend Mahomet from the charge of schism, and apologises for Dante on account of the age in which he lived. There is a droll side to this whole proceeding which prevents us from wishing to examine it too closely. We must leave it to our readers to decide whether the delicacy of the position of the translator, as the Christian representative of a Mahometan Power, justifies him in taking so daring a liberty with his author.

Before we proceed to notice the translation itself, there are two points relating to it which must be discussed—points about which a critic, in speaking of a language other than his own, is bound to be very diffident—the diction and the metre. The idiom employed is not Romaic, nor Neo-Hellenic; nor yet is it classical Greek, such as modern Greek writers use in translations and in imitations of the classical authors—for instance, Mr. Philippos Ioannou in his versions of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, and of selected pieces from other Latin poets. The vocabulary, accident, and syntax, though not always strictly classical, are ancient; but the particles are almost wholly absent, and the order of words and not a few of the expressions are modern. Thus to a classical scholar the language seems strange, though intelligible; how it will appear to a modern Greek it is difficult for a foreigner to say; but, with the various phases and modifications through which the Greek language has passed and is passing, an idiom such as this seems hardly unjustifiable. At all events, it is excellently fitted for the purpose for which the translator has employed it; for, in translating so pregnant a writer as Dante, the modern analytic forms would present great difficulty, and the long "political" verse which is their natural accompaniment would be almost intolerable.

The question of the metre which has been employed is still more difficult. M. Musurus describes it as a twelve-syllabled paroxystone metre, resembling the iambic metre, though

the rhythm is not marked by quantity. In other words, every other syllable is accented, and there is a fixed accent on the eleventh syllable. It necessarily results from this that before the eleventh syllable is reached there is one superfluous syllable in the verse; and this constitutes the difference between the metre of the translation and that of the original, for Dante uses eleven syllables, with a fixed accent on the tenth. This extra syllable is sometimes found in one part of the line and sometimes in another. An example will best illustrate this; the following passage is taken from the speech of Master Adam in *Inf.* xxx. 64-67:—

"Τὸς βύκας, οἵτινες ἐκ χλωρῶν λόφων
τοῦ Κασσινίου καταβαίνουσ' εἰς Ἄρνον,
Ψυχροὺς χάπαλους ὑδραγωγὸς ποιοῦντες,
ἀεὶ πρὸ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἔχω καὶ πᾶσχω."

In these lines the position of the extra syllable is constantly changed. It seems to wander up and down over the verses, reminding us of the old theory of "animal spirits"—that they were an essence which flew from one part of the body to another, restoring the equilibrium of any organ that was below par. Whether the translator's object was merely to keep to a twelve-syllable verse, as being the established iambic metre, or whether he thought in this way to counteract a possible monotony in the recurring lines, we cannot say. His own description, already quoted, points rather to the former supposition; but, from the taste shown in his work generally, we should be disposed to ascribe it to the latter. For ourselves, as we read him, we are continually desirous of Dante's own metre. A further peculiarity which calls for notice is the degree to which M. Musurus has introduced into Modern-Greek verse the practice of substituting one foot for another, and of shifting the regular accent, by which the strictness of metre is allowed to be modified in modern poetry. The feeling with regard to this varies greatly in different languages, and our space forbids us from discussing the question further. But the present translator appears to have gone considerably beyond the practice of Greek writers in this respect, and we often find it difficult to reconcile ourselves to his rhythm.

We turn now to the translation itself. It is unrhymed, following the original line for line, and is literal, and, as far as we have been able to examine it, accurate. It possesses, also, the simplicity and vigour which we look for in a good translation of Dante, and is well sustained throughout. Let us take as a specimen the address of Ulysses to his comrades in canto xxvi. :—

"Ἄνδρες, εἶπον, οἵτινες διὰ μυρίων
Κινδύνων εἰς τὴν δόσιν ἤλθετε σώοι,
Μὴ νῦν, ἐφ' ὅσον τοῦ λοιποῦ βραχύνῃ χρόνον
Ἐργηγορούσας ἔξετε τὰς αἰσθήσεις
Ἀποκνήσχετε γυνάμιν σαφῶς τὸν ὄντα
Ἥλιον πέραν ἀκατόλητον κόσμον.
Ἀναμνησθῶμεν οἷας ἐσμὲν γενέθλης·
Οὐ γὰρ ἴδιον ἡμῶν τὸ ζῆν ὡς κτήνη,
Ἀλλὰ θηρεῦμεν ἀρετὴν κάσιπτον."

Here we do not think that ἡλίον πέραν is the right rendering of "dietro al Sol" of the original, which rather means "following the course of the sun"—i.e., "proceeding westwards;" but no doubt the passage has been taken the other way. Still, these are forcible

lines—some of them, at least, sufficiently so to prove that the language used is suitable for expressing Dante's ideas. The same may be said of verses such as these, which we place side by side with the Italian:—

Che fuma come man bagnata il verno—
Οἱ καπνίζοντες ὡς χεῖρ βρεκτὴ χειμῶνος—
Che va piangendo i suoi eterni danni—
Ὁδυρομένη κολάσεις αἰώνιους—
Ogni primaio aspetto ivi era casso—
Ἐξηφανίσθη πᾶν τὰρχέτυπον σχῆμα—
Folgor pare, se la via attraversa—
Ἀστραπιδὸν τὴν ὁδὸν ἐκδιαβαίνει.

The notes appended at the end of the volume, which, the writer tells us, he has for the most part borrowed from Mr. Pollock's English translation, are simple and sensible, explaining historical references and similar points about which the ordinary reader requires information. In this way the work will serve to introduce the *Divina Commedia* to many Greeks who are not acquainted with the original, while at the same time it presents an interesting problem to classical students. We are glad to congratulate M. Musurus on the successful accomplishment of a difficult task.

H. F. TOZER.

The Life of Napoleon III. Vol. IV. By Blanchard Jerrold. (Longmans.)

THIS volume concludes a work protracted to a length quite unjustified by its merit. The private life of Louis Napoleon, as of other celebrities, cannot as yet be fully narrated without wounding the feelings or interests of his survivors; nor can his public and political career be judiciously written or profitably read until the lies of his dastardly enemies and friends have worn themselves out, and the lessons of time have contrasted more clearly than they have yet done the Imperial and Republican policies. This much at least may be fairly conceded, that no man of equal importance—certainly not Napoleon I.—was ever so persistently, venomously, basely, ungratefully, and undeservedly libelled; and that, granted the very worst which has been said against that corruption which Napoleon III. failed to reform, or actually encouraged, it cannot even now, and most assuredly in the pages of history it never will, arouse the same moral repulsion and disgust as that hypocritical conspiracy of moral assassins of all parties and opinions the most utterly opposed, from Ultramontane Legitimist to Atheist Sans-culotte, severed by the deadliest hatreds and greediest selfishnesses, uniting in the name of patriotism to traduce and then betray the man to whom they had sworn fidelity. History may possibly with justice darken the shades of the Emperor's portrait; his rivals it can never whitewash. On the other hand, so far from palliating or defending with Mr. Jerrold the Emperor's indifference to the commercial and social immorality of his *entourage*, we are strongly persuaded that no plea of tolerant good nature, or embarrassing ties of gratitude, can evade his moral responsibility. It was a crime, because his sole claim to reign was that he meant to rule well and honestly; it was a folly, because, if the governors were rogues, what could he expect from the governed?

But be it remembered that it is in view of our English Court, and in the light of modern ideas, that we blame him, however justly. St. Louis, it is true, stands apart, and Henri IV. and Louis XII. owe much to the kindly perspective of time; but what other French ruler, we would ask, has been blessed with virtuous and strictly honest supporters? The fact is simply this, and it lies on the face of all French history—that, as wealth has grown and political and commercial intrigues become more and more intertwined, the ring of *parvenus* and stock-jobbers has closed ever tighter round the Court. Weakened, or perhaps only obscured, during wars and revolutions, it has visibly encroached during the longer intervals of peace. Not to trace its earlier phases, we may simply point to the steady growth during the July monarchy of that cynical fraud and profligacy which re-appears under the familiar name of the "corruptions of the Second Empire," and of which the end, alas! is not yet.

Of this volume, which occupies the long period from 1854 to 1872, the earlier part contains too many quotations from the *Life of the Prince Consort*, though Mr. Jerrold is aware how little, even before the critical Cherbourg visit of 1857, the Prince's experience and sympathies enabled him to take in the French situation. The quotations from Mr. Senior are more to the purpose, though all this gossip of the *frondeurs* casts a flood of light confusing rather than instructive. That Mr. Jerrold seems to hold a Bonapartist brief can hardly be denied; but we must admit that his ground is impregnable in contrasting the fidelity and perseverance with which the Emperor clung to his *idée fixe* of the English alliance, with the vacillating insincerity and suspicions of the English Cabinet. Of the social and commercial progress of France, and of the many internal reforms, good or untimely, projected or actually carried out under the Second Empire, we hoped for a much fuller account, though what we have is interesting in its way. This is not the place to discuss Mr. Jerrold's brief reviews of Napoleon's foreign policy, but we may mention that unintentionally he leaves a distinct impression that the Emperor was throughout the tool, and at last the victim, of Cavour. This may be fairly argued; but it is simply monstrous to pretend, as Mr. Jerrold so constantly does, that the death of his brother in the affair at Forlì inspired the Emperor with a life-long love of Italy and hate of Austria. The chapter on the commercial treaty of 1860 is useful, but the previous attempts, beginning with Vergennes in 1786, might have been more fully traced. We are, of course, reminded how M. Thiers implored the Emperor "to pause before selling France to the English," and how he at the same time assured Mr. Senior that "no event in modern times had done England so much harm;" as also how he felt inclined to pardon everything to the usurper in return for the seizing of Savoy. The underhand diplomacy of the same year between the Cabinets of St. James and Berlin is perhaps the darkest, as well as the most critical, point in the story; but it may have been impossible to go more deeply into this without giving unnecessary offence. By

far the best chapters are those which trace the hapless attempt at constitutional reform, and the progress of the Opposition. Here there is abundant scope for humour—with young Cavaignac virtuously spurning to receive his school-prize from the hands of the Prince Imperial, with M. Bertion the "candidate of humanity," with M. Gagne and his substitute for government in the shape of a "universal bank, the capital to be supplied by philanthropists who would require no interest," with M. Arago triumphantly repelling the charge of lukewarm socialism by proving that he "tutoyait Felix Pyat," and with Rochefort, less lucky, convicted of having attended Queen Amélie's funeral, and of having "accepted a pencil-case from an Orleanist prince." Mr. Jerrold, whose facts are here numerous and well arrayed, divides the responsibility of the war between Prince Bismarck and his French dupes, both of the Government and the Opposition. His contribution to this delicate controversy may be regarded as considerable, but by no means final.

While owning that we have gleaned much that was worth the trouble from this volume, we must still repeat, in conclusion, that we should have preferred a short systematic arrangement of facts, events, and dates, with, perhaps, in a brief essay, the compiler's general conclusions from them, until the time is ripe, and the historian has appeared, for a searching and unprejudiced survey of a career which has left such marked imprints upon France and the world. E. PURCELL.

SOME BOOKS OF HISTORY.

The Records of St. Michael's Parish Church, Bishop's Stortford. Edited by J. L. Glascock, Jun. (Elliot Stock.) In the year 1871, Mr. A. J. Waterlow printed, for private distribution only, the Accounts of the Churchwardens of the Parish of St. Michael, Cornhill, London, extending from 1456 to 1608; and those who are fortunate enough to possess this now rare volume understand well its extreme value. What Mr. Waterlow did for an old City parish Mr. Glascock has now done for a rural one, and it may as well be said at once that he has done his work admirably. The churchwardens' accounts begin so early as 1431, and the first portion of them is printed verbatim. Afterwards Mr. Glascock has judiciously confined himself to such entries as are not mere repetitions, and are of direct interest and importance. It is unnecessary to suggest the value of these extracts to antiquaries and philologists, and even to ordinary readers, as illustrating the customs and social life of a country parish more than four centuries ago. Besides these accounts, there are various other important transcripts from the parish records, including the inventories of the church goods, the accounts of the collectors of the Chantry and Guild of St. John the Baptist, the church rentals, complete lists of the vicars and churchwardens, the names and accounts of the collectors and overseers of the poor; and finally, though not exactly in keeping with the rest of the volume, Mr. Glascock has given a summarised list of all the monumental inscriptions in the church and churchyard, so far as hitherto known, besides a considerable number in full which have heretofore escaped all the historians of the parish. Having done this, we are somewhat surprised to find this language in his Preface:—"The parish register is not included,

because I consider that extracts *only* are worse than useless, and a verbatim copy would be quite beyond the scope of a work like this." We should have supposed that the parish register would have been far more within the scope of the work than the monumental inscriptions, though we would not have withheld the latter. The register and the accounts would have mutually illustrated each other, and the personal history of the parish thus have been rendered complete. Let us hope that he may yet think it well to print the parish register as a supplemental volume, and thus rescue from possible destruction its important details. It is only a few months ago that the register of a neighbouring parish, Northaw, perished in the flames, and its valuable contents were lost for ever. Mr. Glascock's modest apology for his copious annotations was quite unnecessary, and we assure him that they add greatly to the value of the volume. He is also to be commended for his excellent Index. We trust that his book will be the pioneer of numerous similar ones, and that every parish will be as fortunate in its editor.

The History of Maidstone. By J. M. Russell. (Maidstone: Vivish; London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co.) It is a little singular that, since the publication of the Rev. William Newton's small volume in 1741, this interesting and important old Kentish town has found no historian. Mr. Newton's book is still valuable, by reason of the precise information it contains relating to the various churches and their incumbents, the full monumental inscriptions, &c.; but it never was in any sense a popular history, such as Mr. Russell has evidently aimed to make his more pretentious work, and in which aim it may be said that he has not altogether failed. While his volume shows little evidence of original research, he has made good use of such materials as were readily at command, and has produced a very interesting narrative, embodying not only matters of purely local interest, but also those of greater historical importance. The numerous illustrations of the old houses are full of vigour, and add greatly to the interest of the descriptive accounts in the text. We detect, however, occasional statements set forth as facts which it would be difficult for the author to substantiate. For example, on p. 138, writing of one Lawrence Washington, a resident of Maidstone in the seventeenth century, Mr. Russell says, unhesitatingly, that "he was an ancestor of the great American general." There are some thirty millions of people on the other side of the Atlantic, and not a few in this country, who would be very grateful to Mr. Russell if he could give, which he cannot, any satisfactory authority for this statement. Such random assertions go a great way to impair confidence in other portions of the work, which probably are strictly accurate. On the whole, the author has compiled a very pleasant volume which will at least commend itself to natives and residents of Maidstone; and this is, perhaps, all that he intended.

History of the Chapel Royal of Scotland. By the Rev. Charles Rogers, D.D., LL.D. (Edinburgh: Printed for the Grampian Club.) This work is well enough so far as it goes; but that anything like an adequate history of the interesting Scottish Chapel Royal could be comprised within the small space allotted to it in this volume is simply impossible. It answers very well as a general outline, but is sadly deficient in details. Possibly it does not come within the scope of the designs of the Grampian Club, but it would have been gratifying to know something of the various persons connected, in different capacities, with the chapel. A few of them are mentioned, it is true, but even for lists of the deans and sub-deans, &c., we are referred to the *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticanæ*,

a ponderous and expensive work in six volumes far beyond the reach of the ordinary reader. It was not in this manner that the late Dr. Rimbault dealt with the Royal Chapel at Whitehall, nor Mr. Doynes C. Bell with that in the Tower of London, both of whom produced works of sterling and permanent value, and of the greatest interest by reason of the personal details with which they abound. The register of the Chapel Royal of Stirling and other original documents printed in this volume are of importance; but we are compelled to say that the best use does not appear to have been made of the materials at command, and that a satisfactory history of the Chapel Royal of Scotland has yet to be written.

A Compendium of Italian History. Translated from the Italian of Giovanni Bosco by J. D. Morrell. (Longmans.) We must confess that this book has caused us considerable surprise. First, its shape is somewhat amazing: it is a thin quarto of 160 pages, adorned with poor wood-cuts of some of the chief Italian cities; this pretentious form is out of place in a little compendium which can only be meant for beginners or as a handy-book for travellers. In the next place, we were surprised that an Englishman should translate a text-book compiled by an Italian priest for the use of Italian school-boys; it seemed pretty obvious that such a book would not surply the view of Italian history which an English reader requires. We were not, however, prepared for the number of blunders about facts made by Padre Bosco and endorsed by Mr. Morrell. Thus he says, "Boccaccio was born in Paris." Certaldo and Florence contend for the honour of Boccaccio's birth, but Boccaccio himself calls Florence his native place. We are baffled by "one Humbert, called Bianca mano, who was a Duke of Switzerland, near the lake of Geneva;" nor do we gain much information by reading that "Asti was an independent city, and Turin was also governed in the same manner, although subject to the dukes of Savoy." The remark that "Braccio, taking occasion of an insurrection in his own country, left it," would lead anyone to imagine that egress from an Italian city must have been ordinarily attended with great difficulty. But Braccio's subsequent operations, though clearly wrong, are certainly obscure: "he had even the wickedness to come back and fight against his own country, which he subdued, and then made capital out of his success." After this it is a small matter that the raid of the Turks on Otranto in 1480 is magnified into a "determination, at whatever cost, to become master of Italy." A brief History is not expected to give details, but when it does they might as well be accurate. Father Bosco's imagination leads him to describe Lorenzo de Medici at the time of his attempted assassination in the Pazzi plot as "drawing his sword, which he used with so great courage and intrepidity that he cut himself a way amongst his assailants." Father Bosco, however, seems to have got into his head the notion that Lorenzo was a mighty warrior, for he says about Charles VIII.'s Italian campaign: "if the valorous Lorenzo di Medici had still been living, Charles would probably have been worsted." These are but samples of the errors which enliven a book totally deficient in any connected conception of the movement of Italian history. We have, however, a final cause of surprise in the grammatical errors with which the translation abounds. Mr. Morrell calls himself on his title-page "late H.M. Inspector of Schools." We think sadly of the children whose English composition was judged by a man who writes, "He had just succeeded in overcoming them all, when, re-entering simultaneously into their possessions, the new government was dissolved;" "Boccaccio

followed this advice, and studied for the rest of his life to repair the scandal he had created by works of a high character." Mr. Morrell has views of his own about the spelling of Italian names, which are perplexing. He calls Caesar Borgia "Duke Valentine;" and mixes up English, Latin, and Italian forms in a curious jumble. But here, too, he makes many mistakes, such as Sansavino, Lorenzo Corta, and the like.

From Crécy to Assye: being Five Centuries of the Military History of England. With original Plans and Maps. By H. R. Clinton. (Frederick Warne and Co.) We fear that the writer of this solid volume has addressed himself to deaf ears. Except to the professional student of the art of war, the minute description of battles, and, indeed, military history in general, has become distasteful. With the explanation we need not trouble ourselves; the fact remains certain. And yet Mr. Clinton here shows a capacity for research sufficient to establish a reputation in any other department of history. He is no mere book maker, who has found a taking title to set off his second-hand compilations. In every case he has gone, if not to the original sources, at least to the most trustworthy authorities; and he has woven together his disconnected stories into a continuous narrative. For our own part, we have been most interested in his account of Plassey, here for the first time published from Olive's own despatch written three days after the battle. Indeed, the affair hardly seems to deserve the name of battle, if such mighty results had not followed from it. It was the decisive battle of India only in the sense that British troops, and Sepoys under British command, then first learned to conquer regardless of the numbers of the enemy. As a military event, Wandewash or Assye, or even Buxar, possesses far more significance. The utility of this book to the student is greatly enhanced by more than twenty plans and maps, and by a copious Index.

Epochs of the Papacy. By the Rev. A. R. Pennington. (George Bell and Sons.) These five hundred pages are neatly printed on toned paper and well got up. Considerable pains must perforce have been expended in compiling an epitome which covers such a vast field—for, in spite of the fashionable title of *Epochs*, it is really a continuous history of the Papacy. So wide a range hardly admits of thorough research, so we have not taken the trouble to test whether Mr. Pennington's references are at second hand. It is, on the whole, a meritorious, but hardly a useful, performance, since for advanced readers it presents neither new facts nor new lights, while, as an epitome or school-book, it is too long and too argumentative. Dedicated to the Bishop of Lincoln, it adopts as its main principle that prelate's well-known and, as we think, forced interpretation of the *ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ πέρρῃ*. As might be expected, there is a compromise between Catholic Churchmanship and vituperative anti-Popery. Mr. Pennington's declamation is florid; but, with all its apocalyptic glosses, it fails to show up the Holy See as anything worse than a public nuisance. His stalwart refusal to endorse Romish canonisation produces some ambiguity as to names with which he is apparently unfamiliar. Thus he tells us that "François founded an order of nuns." One might as well say that John wrote "Paradise Lost" and founded the order of Methodists.

William Ewart Gladstone and his Contemporaries. Vols. I. and II. By Thomas Archer, F.R.H.S. (Blackie and Son.) Instead of being another example of that mania for vivisectioning contemporaries which has somewhat displaced the older fashion of *post-mortem* biographies, this work more fitly fulfils the promise of its

sub-title, and is a record of the last "Fifty Years of Social and Political Progress." With the exception of the opening chapter, it can scarcely be claimed that the words and deeds of the Premier receive more space than do those of several of his political contemporaries; indeed, as far as the second out of the four volumes of which this work is to consist extends, Mr. Gladstone plays a very subordinate part. Of course, in the latter portion of this record, Mr. Archer's hero will occupy a more prominent position; but, if the author wishes to preserve an historical value for his labour, he will continue to suppress the biographical element. Vol. ii. deals with a most important and interesting period of British history. It begins with the commencement of the "Free Trade" agitation, and, after including in its progress the revolutionary period of 1848-50, terminates with the declaration of war against Russia by the Allies in 1854. Mr. Archer appears to resort to original authorities for information, and by so doing is creating a work of real utility and permanent value. He has evidently discovered many sources unknown, or little known, to the general student, and which none but one who has lived in the times to which they refer could have unearthed. Unless the publishers wish to cripple the utility of Mr. Archer's work, they will provide it with a copious index.

The Brave Men of Eyam; or, a Tale of the Great Plague Year. By Edward N. Hoare. (S. P. C. K.) The historical novel which is intended not to amuse only, but to instruct, is commonly a failure. We cannot remember, indeed, a single instance of true success. Sir Walter Scott, of course, teaches us many things, and very many of the current opinions on important matters are indirectly due to him; but we do not believe that instruction was ever his object, except when he wrote history proper. We cannot say that we think that Mr. Hoare's book will prove an exception to the rule; but it is carefully written, there is nothing silly in it, and some parts are really touching. It is intended, we conjecture, mainly for boys and girls. The great society for which it has been written has of late issued more than one book which is a real addition to our literature. If it came within the plan of the publishing committee to give us a history of pestilences in England, they would be doing a service. It might be made a book of terrible interest. At present most of us pick up what little we know on the subject from the Sydenham Society translation of Hecker's *Epidemics of the Middle Ages*, an accurate, but dull and, as far as England is concerned, very imperfect, book.

THE work of Mr. Lewis Sergeant on *England's Policy, its Traditions and Problems* (Edinburgh: Macniven and Wallace), provokes a comparison with Prof. Montagu Burrows' brochure on *Imperial England*, and does not suffer by the contrast. The least satisfactory part of Mr. Sergeant's history is that which relates to the foreign policy of the Whigs and Tories in the last century; it is laboured, and wanting in animation. Not until he comes to describe the views of Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Canning, and the differences in the sympathies of these rival politicians, does he move with freedom. Mr. Canning, indeed, is the hero of the volume; and, fortunately for Mr. Sergeant's peace of mind, he has to deal with Canning's career when the dross had been purified from the gold. To understand the hatred with which that brilliant statesman was regarded by many of his Whig opponents, and the coldness with which he was greeted by the Winchileas and Ellenboroughs, it is necessary to study the pages of Hansard before the date when Canning held the seals of the Foreign Office. Mr. Sergeant pays a well-

deserved tribute to the "moral courage" of Lord Russell, and to his perception of the changes which had come over the foreign policy of England through the extension of the franchise. Many of the pages of this volume deserve careful perusal, and we wish for it a success which we are afraid it will fail to obtain.

Hide and Seek: a Story of the New Forest in 1647. By Mrs. Frank Cooper. (S. P. C. K.) We have seldom read a less satisfactory book than this. As a tale, it is as little life-like as possible; and, as a history of the times, as inaccurate as anything we have ever examined. The S. P. C. K. has within the last decade issued a by no means small library of good books; we are therefore not a little surprised to find such a falling off. All Mrs. Cooper's Puritans are bad, or very foolish; all her Royalists patterns of what men and women should be. This is, perhaps, fair enough, but hardly historical. It is, however, not fair to represent Gen. Ireton as a vulgar and cowardly ruffian. The cause for which Ireton fought may have been bad or good, but there is no man of the time who comes before us with a more unspotted character and purer fame. If there be any limits whatever to the liberties which a novelist may take with history, it is surely an offence to represent well-known men as being almost exactly what they were not. We have neither space nor inclination to dwell on this book further, but we must say that her picture of 1647 is in almost every point unlike the original as genuine history shows it. Oliver Cromwell was not at that time "the head of the army;" and neither he nor Ireton were ever converted to the principles of the levellers, or entertained any idea of the extermination of the nobility.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. E. B. NICHOLSON, of the London Institution, has been selected by the curators for the office of Bodley's librarian, vacant by the death of Mr. Coox. We understand that the curators were influenced by the desire to get a man of strong practical tendencies, and used to plenty of hard work. That Mr. Nicholson has it in him to justify their choice in other respects also will be least doubted by those who have known him best and longest. There are men who rise with the increased weight of their responsibilities, and prove themselves worthy of the highest office by their conduct in it.

MR. WILLIAM BOWMAN has been elected to succeed Mr. De La Rue as hon. secretary of the Royal Institution.

PROF. STOKES, of Cambridge, has accepted the appointment of Burnett Lecturer in connexion with Aberdeen. In accordance with the new regulations of the Burnett trust, he will hold the appointment for three years, on condition of delivering a course of lectures at Aberdeen upon "recent researches in physical science, with special reference to natural religion." These lectures are in substitution for the Burnett prizes, awarded every forty years, of which the second prize was won in 1815 by Archbishop Sumner, and in 1855 by Principal Tulloch.

WE hear that a new edition may shortly be expected of Mr. Griffin W. Vyse's book on Egypt, which only appeared about a fortnight ago. It will recognise with more explicitness the extent of the obligation which the author owes to Mr. Stanley Lane Poole's *Egypt*, published last year by Messrs. Sampson Low.

THE following list of honours recently gained in this country by natives of India seems worthy of record:—In the Cambridge mathematical tripos, Devendra Nath Das, of Clare, was classed 26 among the senior optimes, and

S. Saththiandan, of Corpus, was bracketed 66 among the junior optimes; at the examination of the Council of Legal Education, M. D. Dadysett won the second prize (£25) for common law, and C. Alikandaiya a prize of £15 in Roman law, &c.; R. D. Sethna had been awarded the first scholarship in equity (fifty guineas) at the Inner Temple; at Cirencester College, Syed Sakhawat Hosein took the first place in agricultural law, and would have been entitled to one of the two scholarships open to the whole college if he had not already been a scholar of the Bengal Government.

A FRESH edition of 2,000 copies of the early "Poetical Works" of Mr. Browning, in six volumes, has been printed.

MR. ROBERT BUCHANAN has two new works nearly ready for publication. First, a volume of poems; and, secondly, a romance in three volumes, the *Martyrdom of Madeline*, which has for its theme "the social conspiracy against womankind," and was planned with, and written in close sequence to, Mr. Buchanan's powerful *God and the Man: a Study of the Vanity and Folly of Individual Hate*. The *Martyrdom of Madeline* has been running its course through some provincial papers, and is likely to attract attention in certain circles in London, as some of the literary and "society" journals are dealt with in it, and the editors of two of them are characters in the novel.

WE hear that Mr. Herbert Giles, British vice-consul, Pagoda Anchorage, has in the press a work entitled *Historical China*. One of the objects he has in view is to show what portions of the Chinese annals are historical and what portions legendary or mythological. A considerable part of the work will treat of the Chinese legal system, and many leading cases will be cited. Mr. Giles is already known by his *Chinese Sketches* and translations of some Chinese fairy tales; but the forthcoming work will be of a more ambitious nature.

THE Clarendon Press will shortly publish the third and fourth volumes of the *History of Agriculture and Prices in England*, by Mr. Thorold Rogers, M.P. The first two, published sixteen years ago, dealt with the period 1259-1400 inclusive. The next two will contain the period 1401-1582. The principal topics in the survey are the prices of provisions and labour, but there is hardly any article in mediaeval use the price of which is not recorded. The third volume (775 pages) contains the evidence, generally printed in four columns to the page, with three Indexes of places, articles, and weights and measures. The fourth is the comment on the evidence (779 pages), with Index, and contains numerous statistical averages, annual and decennial, derived from the facts of the third volume.

THE Clarendon Press will also publish immediately a volume of *Notes on the Canons of the First Four General Councils*, by Prof. Bright. These are, in the main, an expansion of lectures delivered to students of the Theological School, and are intended to make the enactments of the most important ancient ecclesiastical synods more intelligible to such students, and to others of similar attainments outside Oxford.

WE hear that Messrs. W. H. Allen have in the press a work entitled *Guzerat and the Guzerathi, Sketched from Life*, by Behramji M. Malabari, a native of the province and an accomplished writer of English.

MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND NORGATE will shortly publish *The Development from Kant to Hegel*, with chapters on the Philosophy of Religion, by Andrew Seth, Assistant to the Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh. The first part of the work traces

the development of Kant's metaphysical thought through Fichte and Schelling to Hegel. The second part embraces a critical account of Kant's *Religion innerhalb der Grenzen der blossen Vernunft* and a sketch of Hegel's Philosophy of Religion. This is one of the prize essays of the Hibbert Trust.

Historic Notices of the Borough of Flint, by Mr. Henry Taylor, deputy-constable of Flint Castle, is in the press, and will be published shortly by Mr. Elliot Stock. The work will contain much curious information concerning local usages, drawn from charters and official documents, and will be illustrated by facsimiles and wood-cuts.

MESSRS. CHATTO AND WINDUS have in the press *Ireland under the Land Act*, being a reprint of the letters contributed recently to the *Standard* by the special commissioner of that paper in Ireland. There will be an Appendix, giving the leading cases under the Act, with the evidence in full; and a collection of judicial dicta, &c.

WE understand that the work on which Dr. Samuel Kinns has been long engaged, entitled *Moses and Geology*; or, the Harmony of the Bible with Science, is now in a forward state of preparation, and will be published next week by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, Galpin and Co.

MR. CHARLES PEBODY is writing a work on *English Journalism and the Men who have made it*, which will form the forthcoming volume of Cassell's "Popular Shilling Library."

WE are glad to see from the annual Report of the Harleian Society that its funds are in a very flourishing condition. The volumes in the press for the current year are *The Visitation of London in 1633*, edited by Dr. Howard and Col. Chester; *The Visitation of Cheshire in 1580*, edited by Mr. J. Paul Ryland; and *The Registers of St. Michael, Cornhill*.

MESSRS. PALMER AND HOWE, of Manchester, propose to issue by subscription a new volume by Mr. Leo H. Grindon, consisting mainly of his *Manchester Walks and Wild Flowers*, and of his *Summer Rambles* (both of which have long been out of print), together with much new matter. It is hoped that the book will thus form a complete guide to the rural beauties of such portions of Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Yorkshire as lie within easy reach of Manchester.

THE performances of the "Alcestis" of Euripides in the original Greek at St. Andrew's College, Bradfield, to which we have before referred, will take place on Saturday, February 18, at 4 p.m., and on Tuesday, February 21, at 6 p.m.

THE Oxford Browning Society will meet this term on February 14 and March 7. At the first meeting, Mr. R. F. Horton, Fellow of New College, will read a paper, "Is Browning a Poet?" and, at the second, the paper of Mr. Arthur Sidgwick, Fellow of Corpus, will be on "Browning's Love Poetry."

AT the meeting of the Clifton Shakspeare Society held on January 28, reports in connexion with "As You Like It" were presented from the following departments:—Tradition and folk-lore, by Miss Benson; plants and animals, by Mr. T. W. Jacques and Dr. J. E. Shaw respectively; instrumental music, by Mr. C. H. Saunders; rare words and phrases, by Mr. L. M. Griffiths; and satire and irony, by Mr. J. W. Mills. Mr. Francis F. Fox read a paper on "Touchstone." Papers on "Jacques" by Miss Florence O'Brien and Mr. E. Thelwall were read. The Rev. H. P. Stokes made a communication on "The Songs in 'As You Like It'" and on "Shakspeare's References to Marlowe."

ON Thursday next, February 16, Dr. P. L. Selater, secretary of the Zoological Society, will give the first of a course of four lectures on "The Geographical Distribution of Animals" at the Royal Institution; and on Saturday, February 18, Mr. W. Watkiss Lloyd will give the first of a course of four lectures on "The Iliad and Odyssey."

THE heritors (*Anglice*, freeholders) of the little border town of Dunse, in Berwickshire, have solemnly resolved to revert to the ancient spelling of the name—Duns, without the final e—which is said to have prevailed down to the year 1746.

A NEW monthly periodical, entitled the *Irish Economist*, will be issued at Dublin on the 15th of this month. It will deal with agriculture and domestic economy, finance and social topics.

To those who make a collection of "amusing extracts" we commend the following:—The *Revue critique* of January 30—a most serious journal—thus summarises a review that has appeared in a contemporary of Prof. Gardiner's new volumes of history:—"L'ouvrage est le fruit d'un labeur de plusieurs années; de juin 1637 à août 1642." The *Leisure Hour* for February—a magazine of which we would likewise speak with all respect—has an article on "The Kings of Laughter," by the Rev. E. Paxton Hood, which is a storehouse of solecisms, grammatical and other. The time of Defoe, we are told, "was the age of Queen Anne, King William, and his descendants." . . . "Cowper had the power to knit the thong of satire, it sometimes seems, in quite equal strength to Pope. Take him all in all, we prefer him far before Pope."

WE learn from the *New York Tribune* that Mr. G. W. Williams, the coloured member of the Ohio House of Representatives, has nearly completed a History of the negro race in America. The first part is devoted to the kingdoms, language, and religions of the race in Africa. The second part deals with the history of slavery from 1618 to 1880.

MESSRS. ROBERT CLARK AND CO., of Cincinnati, announce for immediate publication *The St. Clair Papers*, in two volumes, being a Life of Arthur St. Clair, of the Revolution period, from original materials; and, as the third volume of their *Mississippi Series*, "The Expedition of Don Diego Dionisio De Peñalosa, Governor of New Mexico, from Santa Fe to the River Mischipi and Grand Quivira in 1662." The latter will be issued in an edition of only 250 copies.

PROF. GEORGE STEPHENS will shortly begin courses of lectures on Old English and on Shakspeare at the University of Copenhagen.

M. BUSLAIEV has written, and will shortly publish, a work on "The Development of Religious Beliefs in Russia." A general view of Russian religious beliefs is first given, from which all that forms the common inheritance of other European nations is then eliminated, the remaining elements being those which strictly characterise Russia. M. Buslaiev's conclusion is that the Russian mind is more strongly attracted to, and takes a profounder interest in, the problems of religion than that of any other people.

THE Società romana di Storia patria has just issued the first of four volumes containing the Diary of Card. G. A. Sala during the existence of the Roman Republic of 1798-1801. It contains a number of diplomatic documents never before published.

AN exhibition is now open at Paris, in the Conservatoire national des Arts et Métiers, of models and objects connected with bookmaking,

The processes of the manufacture of ink and paper are represented; there are models of printing-presses, from that of Gutenberg to that of the *Daily Telegraph*; and many interesting experiments of the early stages of illustration by lithography and photogravure.

UNDER the title of *Louis XV et Elizabeth de Russie*, M. Albert Vandal has just issued an interesting study of the diplomatic relations between France and Russia in the eighteenth century, drawn mainly from the archives of the French Foreign Office. It forms a supplement to the "Secret du Roi" which the Duc de Broglie is publishing in the *Revue des Deux-Mondes*.

AN important sale of MSS. and early printed books, being the library of the late chevalier J. Camberlyn, will take place at Brussels on February 14. Among the lots are several Flemish chronicles, &c., of the fifteenth to the eighteenth century that have never yet been edited.

The last volume of Miss Laffan's works, which Messrs. Macmillan are republishing, contains a collection of her minor—and by no means least successful—pieces. These are "Flinders, Tatters, and the Counsellor" and "The Game Hen," in both of which the scene is laid among the gutter-children of Dublin; "Baubie Clark," giving a somewhat similar experience of the writer's residence in Edinburgh; and "Weeds," where we are brought back to Ireland, this time to a market town and to the Land Question. The first of these is by itself sufficient to found a reputation upon; and of "Baubie Clark" we can only say that a second reading confirms our recollection of it when first published in a fugitive form by Messrs. Blackwood. Much as we value this edition of Miss Laffan, we cannot extend our good-will to the binding. It may be national, but it is not pretty; and we doubt whether the colour will wear.

THE review of Miss Metcalfe's *Blackfriars Bridge* in the last number of the ACADEMY contained a passage which might be understood as reflecting upon the publishers of that novel, Messrs. Remington. It is our duty to state that no such reflection was intended. As a matter of fact, we understand that in this case, as with all other books published by Messrs. Remington, the proofs were duly sent to the author and returned by her revised. An unfortunate misprint in the head-lines of all the pages escaped her attention; that is all.

GERMAN JOTTINGS.

WE learn from the *National Zeitung* that the Baroness Ulrike von Lewetsoff, whose friendship with Goethe is mentioned by all the biographers, is still living in perfect retirement at the castle of Triblitz, near Lobositz, at the ripe age of eighty-four. The baroness, in her youth a celebrated beauty, maintained a constant correspondence with Goethe for many years, and often met him at Carlsbad and Marienbad. She is consequently the owner of an extensive Goethe literature; and a well-known specialist has recently been commissioned to sift and prepare for eventual publication the correspondence with Goethe in the Baroness von Lewetsoff's possession.

THE prize of one thousand marks, offered on the occasion of the centenary of the first representation of Schiller's *Robbers*, has been awarded, out of 156 works sent in for competition, to the tragedy of *Lucia San Felice*, by Richard Boss, a poet of four-and-twenty, now residing at Frascati, near Rome.

EUGEN ZABEL has just published a biography of Berthold Auerbach (Berlin: A. B. Auerbach)

in commemoration of the seventieth birthday of the great novelist, which falls on the last day of the present month. Any profits that may accrue from the sale of this work will be given to the fund now being raised for the purpose of erecting an almshouse in Nordstetten, the birthplace of Auerbach.

PROF. WILHELM SCHERER, of Berlin, has commenced the publication of a series of scarce German books of the late Middle Ages, reproduced in facsimile by photography. The first, which has just appeared (Burchard: Berlin), is *Das Schelmen Zunft* of Thomas Murner, after the first edition of 1512. This is to be followed by the *Passionale Christi und Antechristi*. The full title of the series is "Deutsche Drucke älterer Zeit in photolithographischer Nachbildung ausgewählt."

THE *Börsenblatt* gives the total number of publications in Germany for the year 1881 as 15,191, as against 14,941 in 1880. The items are as follows:—Bibliography, &c., 411; theology, 1,472; jurisprudence, politics, statistics, &c., 1,469; medical and veterinary science, 817; natural science, &c., 924; philosophy, 148; educational, &c., 1,924; books for the young, 490; classical and Oriental languages, &c., 574; modern languages and Old-German literature, 461; history, biography, &c., 779; geography, travel, 352; mathematics and astronomy, 186; military science, &c., 367; trade and commerce, 626; building, machinery, railways, &c., 463; forestry, &c., 99; domestic and rural economy, &c., 417; *belles-lettres*, 1,226; fine arts, 581; popular works, calendars, &c., 639; masonic literature, 23; miscellaneous, 402; maps, 341. Under the majority of headings the number is in excess of the previous year, the chief items in which there is a falling off being modern languages and the fine arts. It is noteworthy that there is a large increase in the number of theological publications.

OBITUARY.

Two Oxfordshire antiquaries died in the last days of January. Mr. John Marriott Davenport was for many years the official secretary of Bishop Wilberforce; and, by his labours in connexion with the management of the property of the see of Oxford and the appointment of the various incumbents, became known throughout that extensive diocese. The offices which he held afforded him unusual opportunities for acquiring information relating to Oxfordshire; and his list of the *Lords Lieutenant and High Sheriffs from 1086 to 1868* and his collections on the *Annals of Oxfordshire* are of the highest value to the students of its history. He died at 62 St. Giles, Oxford, on January 31, aged seventy-two. Six days previously, Mr. William Wing died at Steeple Aston, aged seventy-one. For many years he had taken a considerable interest in the history of the parishes around the country town in which he lived, and the result of his investigations was shown in a series of small pamphlets on their annals. Among the parishes which he had thus described were Bletchington, North Aston, Steeple and Middle Aston, and Steeple and Westcot Barton. Two or three years ago he compiled a short account of the famous election of 1754, which divided the gentry of the county and their tenants into two opposing camps.

THE death is also announced, at Edinburgh, on February 5, at the age of fifty-seven, of the Rev. James Stormonth, compiler of several manuals and dictionaries; at Darmstadt, of Herr Karl Brandt, who provided the machinery for all Wagner's operas at Bayreuth; and at Paris, of M. d'Areq, chief of the historical department in the national archives, and an indefatigable editor of original records.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE *Cornhill* for February begins a new novel, "Damocles," by the author of "For Percival." The opening promises well; the descriptive touches are finely drawn, and the characters well conceived, but the conversations tend to drop into wearisome trivialities. A short story, "Let Nobody Pass," is excellent as a sample of what a short story ought to be, and its interest is increased by the fact that the plot is laid in the Russian Court. An article on "A Modern Solitary" deals rather frigidly with Senancourt's *Obermann*, about which Mr. Matthew Arnold said what was worth saying in the first number of the ACADEMY. Mr. Edmund Gurney, in an "Epilogue on Vivisection," attempts to mediate between the heat of one-sided disputants. An article on "Oddities of Personal Nomenclature" will furnish materials for those who want statistics of eccentricities as a basis of a new psychology.

THE *Antiquary* improves month by month. This is in some respects the best number we have seen. Mr. Hall contributes a most useful paper on St. Valentine's Day, which contains much of the learning and nearly all the folklore that can now be gathered up on what is really a curious subject. He has evidently examined many books which ordinary readers never think of looking into. In one or two instances, he has, we think, been content with late authorities where earlier ones would have been more to the purpose. The second paper is by Mr. C. Roach Smith, on the Roman villa at Morton, in the Isle of Wight. Mr. Smith is probably the greatest authority we have on Roman Britain south of the Wash; and it would be mere impertinence in us to praise his work, which is always thoughtful and carefully worked out. We wish we could say the same of the paper on the Roman remains at Malta. The subject is a large one, and worthy of most careful and elaborate treatment. We wonder how many of the people who have occasion to speak of the various Dukes of Clarence have ever considered how the bearers of this title came by it, and what is its exact meaning. In our own school-boy days we well remember that we were much exercised in mind as to where Clarence could be, and came pretty confidently to the conclusion that it was some place in Normandy. Had Mr. Parkinson's paper been before us we should have found a most pleasant solution of our difficulties. Mr. Theodore Bent's paper on the tombs at Chilton is an interesting contribution to local history. It is worthy of attention as showing that the age of wanton barbarism is by no means passed away. Some of the fingers have recently been broken off one of the effigies in this church, and the dog on which the feet of another rests has been injured. If a person wantonly damaged a sculpture in the British Museum or a cast at South Kensington he would be severely punished, and no one would ever think of pitying him. The treasures in our country churches are as much national property as those in museums, and they should be as jealously guarded from injury.

THE second number of *Hibernia* contains an interesting notice (being the second instalment) of speeches by Edmund Burke on "Painting, Philosophy, and Poetry," on "Piracy in Printing," and on "Capital Punishment," delivered, while Burke was a Trinity College student, before a Dublin debating club. The same number gives the original version of Father Prout's "Inaugural Ode to the Author of *Vanity Fair*" (which appeared in the first number of the *Cornhill Magazine*), from a hitherto unpublished MS., with the alterations proposed by Thackeray, and those made by Mahony himself. It is a curious example of the inevitable wane of the minor lights of literature that so careful a writer as Prof.

Morley should have forgotten the existence of the Rev. Francis Mahony, and have stated in his recent *English Literature in the Reign of Victoria* that the author of *The Reliques of Father Prout* was William Maginn.

THE sixth and concluding number of the *Revue de Droit international et de la Législation comparée* for 1881 has recently appeared. It contains an article by Prof. Charles Brocher, of Geneva, upon the fundamental principles of private international law, more especially with reference to the important work, in six volumes, on civil international law recently completed by Prof. Laurent, of Ghent. Prof. Laurent is deservedly regarded as the master-mind of the philosophical school of law on the Continent, while Prof. Brocher is a disciple of Savigny, who, in his day, was the master-spirit of the historical school. A fifth and concluding article, translated by M. Ernest Nys, of Brussels, completes the late Prof. Bluntschli's review of the work of the Berlin Congress in its bearing upon the Danubian principalities. He first discusses the international status of the principality of Bulgaria, which has been in substance withdrawn from the dominion of the Sultan, although it is in form still subject to him. He next examines the political condition of the province of Eastern Roumelia, having a special status intermediate between military dependence on the Porte and civil independence; and, lastly, the situation of Bosnia and the Herzegovina, occupied and administered by Austria-Hungary under the provisions of the Treaty of Berlin, the Sultan continuing in theory in possession of the sovereignty, but having, in fact, nothing but the *nudum jus*. Prof. Ullmann, of Innsbruck, contributes a paper on Austrian legislation in 1879 and 1880, in the course of which he treats of the new juridical relations between Austria-Hungary on one side and Bosnia and the Herzegovina on the other. Advocate Martin, of Geneva, reviews the Federal law of Switzerland on the subjects of divorce and of the separation of married parties, more particularly where the parties are strangers resident in Switzerland. The article on necrology is of more than ordinary interest, and is from the pen of Prof. Rivier, of Brussels. It is a very full notice of the distinguished career of the late Prof. Bluntschli, of Heidelberg. It is proposed to raise a subscription for the purpose of founding a prize in honour of his memory and for the encouragement of the study of comparative public general law, and of the law of nations. Prof. Holtzendorf, of Munich; Prof. Orelli, of Zürich; Prof. Schulze, of Heidelberg; and Prof. Rivier, of Brussels, have undertaken to act as a provisional committee.

THE most valuable article in the *Revista Contemporanea* of January 30 is by D. José Barzanallana, a former Minister of Finance, on "The Impôts on the Salaries paid by the Treasury during the Nineteenth Century." The vices of this system of discounts, which amounted to twenty-five and even to thirty-seven per cent. from the salaries, often in arrear, of officials not too highly paid, are ably pointed out and justly condemned. Some classes, indeed, were always exempted, and among these, in 1848, appear the "toreros"! An unpublished diary by the Conde de Torenó, of travels in Italy in 1839, commences in this number; at present it has too much the air of a guide-book. Gen. Fernandez de Cordova and Señor Becerro de Bengoa continue their respective publications; and Rodriguez Ferrer terminates his agreeable narrative of a "Scientific Expedition to the Mines of Almaden."

LETTER FROM VENICE.

Venice: Feb. 2, 1882.

THE Venetians have always been held to be most critical judges of music and musicians. They have, indeed, enjoyed a notoriety for special skill in hissing. It was they who hissed Verdi's "Trovatore;" and for that reason the composer will never set foot in their city. It was they who jeered at Donizetti's operas, which Europe has afterwards accepted as excellent. The saying is, that if you can sing in Venice you can sing anywhere. This may have been true in the past; not so now. The Fenice Theatre is at present filled with audiences who vociferously applaud operas, in themselves beautiful, but which are certainly most indifferently—nay, most shamefully—performed.

First, we have had "Lohengrin"—a novelty for Venice. There was a talk of Wagner's assisting at its production. It is fortunate that he was spared such a burlesque of his great work. During the rehearsals, the *impresario* discovered that the tenor had no voice whatever. When a substitute had been found in Signor de Sanctis, the opera, after much heralding, was at length produced. What a first night! Elsa was inaudible; Ortruda shrieked on provocation; while the tenor did not know his music. The chorus wore quaint beards and quaint petticoats, like Assyrian bowmen. The scenery was contemptible. There was zealous braying in the orchestra; and their leader, from his frequent smirks to the audience, seemed convinced that it was all Wagner's fault. His rule seemed to be: When in doubt, whip the big drum. After "Lohengrin" had been given in this melancholy fashion for some nights, another treat was promised and duly foretold by the journals. It was the hackneyed "Favorita." A rich American, a pupil of Lamperti's, called in the bills Signor Scovello, was ambitious, it seems, to shine as Fernando. But, in spite of his paying a handsome sum for the privilege, his total incompetency was plain even to the management; and thus the Venetians lost a chance of applauding him. On the opening night of "La Favorita," everyone was most critical. When Leonora came on, the first compliment volleyed from many throats was: "O che brutta! O che brutta!" Perhaps this was needlessly candid; but, alas! it was true. And her voice was no whit less distressing than her face; while the poor little tenor was hissed out of sight and hearing. Hoots, jeers, and shrill whistling continued until the curtain fell; the whole performance was a parody. As to repeat the opera with such artists was evidently impossible, the *impresario* hastened to find better ones. He has now succeeded in engaging a Signora Galletti-Gianoli, an elderly lady from Bologna, who may once have played Leonora's part with credit, but who has no single qualification for it now. Fernando's music is sung by a promising young tenor—Signor Valero—who is a great favourite with the Venetians. His voice is at least agreeable, and he also makes every effort to look affectionately upon his "angiol di Dio," the veteran Leonora. Both singers have been received with enthusiasm, with an applause such as in England we would only give to a Patti or a Mario. Is this Venice, critical Venice, we seem tempted to ask, where music and musicians have ever been so sharply dealt with? What has come to the *soi-disant* connoisseurs, who can find pleasure in such trumpery operatic performances, where the singers cannot sing and the players cannot play?

A far more pleasant impression upon music-lovers must have been made by Signor Coccon's new Mass, performed on Christmas Eve, and again at Epiphany, in the Basilica of St. Mark's. Signor Niccolò Coccon is the *maestro primario* of the cathedral, a post once filled by Lotti,

Marcello, and many another illustrious Venetian composer. He is a sound musician; and this, his latest Mass, is full of beautiful passages. His music is at times dramatic rather than religious, but it has a gravity of style and a refinement of orchestration which make one wonder that it is not more widely known. Yet the Masses for orchestra and organ written by Signor Coccon for performance in St. Mark's are all preserved in the archives of the cathedral, and he is unable to let them be printed and published. They exist only in MS. For Italians this is a great loss; and I feel sure that his works would find admirers in France, as also in England.

At the Malibran Theatre, here, Suppé's melodious opera "Boccaccio" draws large audiences. The airs in it are most catching; and the waltz-tune, with hissing accompaniment, has a close resemblance to Strauss' "Blue Danube." The pit is filled with *barcaruoli* and fishermen, who know every note of the music, and clamorously thump for a repetition of their favourite numbers. The management should produce "Les Cloches de Corneville" without delay, for that is the style of music which takes the public taste here. In such case we should hear every gondolier humming, "Just look at this;" and the Grand Canal would ring with amateur renderings of the "Chime Chorus" between the incessant shrieks of the penny steamboats. Musical Venice, forsooth!

To-night the stone-pelted Sarah Bernhardt is to appear in "La Dame aux Camélias." It will be interesting to compare her in the part with Signora Marini, who has just finished a very successful engagement here. She was extremely fine in this character; and for passion and sincerity of expression the French actress will hardly come beyond her. In another letter I shall hope to give some account of the way in which Mlle. Bernhardt is received by—critical Venice.

Liszt, the composer, is here; he attended the performance last night of "Lohengrin." It is not said whether he enjoyed it as much as those about him. Let us devoutly hope not.

PERCY E. PINKERTON.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- BERNARD, L. *Neliska: Epopee nationale russe*. Paris: Firmin-Didot. 10 fr.
 BERTHAUD, A. *L'Organisation française: le Gouvernement, l'Administration*. Paris: Quantin. 3 fr.
 BONGHI, R. *Leone XIII e il Governo italiano*. Torino: Loescher. 1 fr. 50 c.
 BOURNET, A. *Vénise: Notes prises dans la Bibliothèque d'un vieux Vénitien*. Paris: Plon. 3 fr. 50 c.
 CLARETIE, J. *La Vie à Paris, 1881*. Paris: Havard. 3 fr. 50 c.
 DOEBNER, R. *Leibnizens Briefwechsel m. dem Minister v. Bernstorff u. andere Leibniz bstr. Briefe u. Aktenstücke aus den Jahren 1705-16*. Hannover: Hahn. 2 M. 40 Pf.
 FARTENBATH, J. *Calderon in Spanien*. Leipzig: Friedrich. 5 M.
 GEOFFROY, A. *Etudes d'après Fromentin*. Paris: Challamel. 3 fr. 50 c.
 LACAZE, H. *Souvenirs de Madagascar*. Paris: Berger-Levrault.
 LAVIGNE, H. *Etat civil d'Artistes français de 1823 à 1880*. Paris: Charavay. 6 fr.
 LUZEL, V. M. *Légendes chrétiennes de la Basse-Bretagne*. Paris: Maisonneuve.
 MONTÉGUT, E. *Types littéraires et Fantaisies esthétiques*. Paris: Hachette. 3 fr. 50 c.

THEOLOGY.

- PONNAT, Le Baron de. *Histoire des Variations et Contradictions de l'Eglise romaine*. Paris: Charpentier. 7 fr.
 TUTONIS, Monachi O. S. B. *saeculi XII, opuscula*. E duobus codicibus Aemontensibus ed. W. Kubatscher. Graz: Styria. 2 M. 20 Pf.

HISTORY.

- BOLLETTINO DI Archeologia e Storia Dalmata. Trieste: Dase. 10s.
 DAUBET, E. *Histoire de la Restauration*. Paris: Hachette. 3 fr. 50 c.
 DUQUET, A. *La Guerre d'Italie (1859)*. Paris: Charpentier. 3 fr. 50 c.
 FLOIGEL, V. *Geschichte d. semitischen Alterthums*. Leipzig: Friedrich. 3 M. 50 Pf.

FRIEDRICH, H. Die politische Thätigkeit d. Bischofs Otto I. v. Bamberg. Eine Studie zur Geschichte d. Investiturenreites. Königsberg: Strübing. 1 M. 50 Pf.
 MACHÉNAS, L. Chronique de Chypre. Traduit et annoté par E. Miller et O. Sathas. Paris: Leroux. 40 fr.
 MÉMOIRES inédites de Charles-Nicolas Coshin sur le Comte de Caylus, Bouchardon et les Slodis, p. p. Ch. Henry. Paris: Charavay. 8 fr.
 MOULENG, F. Documents historiques sur le Tarn-et-Garonne. T. 2. Montauban: Imp. Forestié.
 RZOSTA diplomatica nec non epistolaria Bohemias et Moraviae. Pars 2. Annorum 1253-1310. Opera J. Emser. Vol. IX. Prag: Grégr & Dattl. 5 M.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

SCHROEDER, H. Beiträge zur Kenntnis der in ost. u. westpreussischen Diluvialgebieten gefundenen Silurocephalopoden. Berlin: Friedländer. 2 M. 40 Pf.
 STOFFANI, A. L' Eva neozoa ossia Descrizione del Terreni glaciali e del loro Equivalenti in Italia. Milano: Hoepli. 20 M.
 SUKUMAW, G. Finnische Vogeleier. Mit Text v. J. A. Palmén. Nr. 1-5. Helsingfors. 15s.

PHILOLOGY, ETC.

PLAUTI, T. M., Menaschmi. Ed. J. Vahlen. Berlin: Vahlen. 2 M.
 BAALFELD, G. A. Italogræca. Kulturgeschichtliche Studien auf sprachwissenschaftlicher Grundlage gewonnen. 1. Hft. Hünover: Hahn. 1 M.
 RAVINIAU, Grammaire provençale (sous-dialecte rhodanien). Paris: Thorin.
 ERHART, R. Le Mahāvastu: Texte sanscrit publié pour la première fois et accompagné d'introductions et d'un Commentaire. T. 1. Paris: Leroux. 25 fr.
 TARTARA, A. Animadversiones in locos nonnullos Valerii Catulli et Titi Livii. Roma: Libreria Centrale. 2 fr.
 THOMAS, A. Nouvelles Recherches sur l'Entrée de Espagne: Chanson de Geste franco-italienne. Paris: Thorin. 2 fr.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LITERARY IDENTITY.

Westbury-on-Trym, Gloucestershire: Feb. 6, 1882.

In the exquisite little work which commemorates the two-thousandth volume of "The Tauchnitz Series" I observe a passage wherein the author, speaking in his own person, doubts "whether the general reader will ever distinguish clearly between Miss Amelia Blandford Edwards and Miss Matilda Barbara Betham-Edwards." I am exceedingly sorry that such should be the opinion of one whose knowledge of English culture is doubtless commensurate with his knowledge of English literature. And I am still more sorry that Prof. Morley, instead of merely noting the confusion which is supposed still to prevail in regard to this point of identity, did not use his opportunity to say something which might have aided the public in distinguishing between two writers whose opinions, convictions, and lines of study have literally nothing in common. Indeed, I could have even thought that the little I have done of late years to popularise Egyptology in the columns of the ACADEMY might have helped to make the distinction of persons somewhat clearer.

To achieve an honourable name in the literature of his country is the one reward which every earnest author must desire above all others; and Prof. Morley will, I am sure, admit that any writer who had been content, in this hope, to produce slowly, to forego rapid gains, and conscientiously to endeavour at all times to do his best was hardly used by Fate if the name—the mere name—for which he had worked was pronounced to be inextricably entangled with that of another. For my own part, I feel that if I am not known for myself I have lost the labour of my life; and I do not doubt that Miss Betham-Edwards would say the same.

AMELIA B. (Blandford) EDWARDS.

THE BASQUE SUFFIX -K.

6 Norfolk Terrace, Bayswater, W.: Jan. 28, 1882.

My hypothesis does not consist, as M. Vinson supposes, in considering the active singular nominative *k* as an instrumental suffix. I consider *k* as an active suffix, which in some instances is usually rendered by "by," and in

other instances by the subject of a transitive verb; but I think, at the same time, that the rendering of this *k* always by "by" is the only way to explain to non-Basques the Basque usage of *nik* in *nik egiña*, "done by me," and *nik egin dau*, "I have made it." As to the instrumental suffix, I never dreamed of it, M. Vinson knowing, I suppose, as every Basque must know, that the instrumental suffix *z*, *zaz* (*tas*), has nothing whatever to do with the active suffix *k*. In fact, *nik* and *nizaz* (*nitaz* in the Labourdin dialect) have very different significations, the last being "by means of me," or "through me." In this phrase: *Nola au Jaungoikoa-k Profetaren aza-z* (or *nizaz*) *esana izan dan* (in Labourdin, *Nola hau Jainkoa-k Profetaren ahoa-z* (or *nitaz*) *errana izan baita*), "as this has been said by God through the Prophet's mouth" (or "through me"), "I" and "the Prophet's mouth" receive the instrumental suffix *z*, *zaz*, or *tas*, while "God," being the agent, is followed by the active suffix *k*.

"Where an Englishman says," M. Vinson continues, "*made by me*, a Basque says *I thing-made*, *ego factum* (and not *a me factum*); just as, in the same manner, the Dravidian says," &c.

Now (without paying the least attention to Dravidian, a language, although agglutinative, *toto coelo* distant from Basque) M. Vinson is aware, as I think, that *nik* in *nik egiña*, "made by me," and *nik* in *nik egiña da*, "it is made by me," are one and the same thing. Will he not hesitate to translate *nik egiña da* by "I is thing-made," or "ego est factum" ("is" and "est" being the Basque *da*), as he does not hesitate to translate *nik egiña* by "I thing-made," or "ego factum"? I hope he will, for his own sake. If this does not convince him of the unjustifiableness of his translation I am very sorry, but I cannot help it.

My verbal theory, fully developed in my *Verbe basque*, has already received the approbation of competent judges, among whom are the first Basque grammarians and philologists. I think that I have justified my views in my writings, and will abide by my hypothesis until I may be compelled to abandon it by the establishment of a better one, proved by the observation of material facts and phonetical laws of permutation, as mine undoubtedly is in spite of M. Vinson's bold assertions to the contrary.

I conclude my reply, which will be my last communication on this subject, by referring the readers of the ACADEMY to my *Verbe basque*, and bringing to M. Vinson's recollection these two very important facts upon which is based what it suits him to call "my imaginative theory unsupported by facts":—(1) The demonstrative *au* is used in the translation of the New Testament printed at La Rochelle in 1571 (one of the most ancient documents of the Basque language) with the verbal sense of the imperative "have," in such a manner that *au* means not only "this," but also "have it" or "this" without a material expression of the verb, when this demonstrative intimately unites with the pronominal suffixes *c* (pron. *k*), "thou, man;" "n," "thou, woman;" *que*, "you," as in the following examples:—(a) Acts xxiii. 11, *Paul, au-c bihotz on*, "Be of good cheer, Paul," or literally, "Paul, this-thou heart good," without expressing "have;" (b) Luke viii. 48, *Alabá au-n bihotz on*, "Daughter, this-thou heart good;" (c) Acts xxvii. 25, *Bihotz on au-que*, "Heart good this-you" ("have it good heart"). The permutations of *au*, according to the Basque phonetical laws, are easily deduced (after taking into due consideration the nature of the dialectal varieties) in all the numerous verbal terminatives which follow other words. (2) The same demonstrative *au* explains very well (contrary to M. Vinson's hypothesis and Mr. van Eys' absurd verbal theory) why all the Basque pure

terminatives belonging to the transitive voice always contain, in an obligatory manner, the direct regimen, which is expressed by the Latin accusative. The Basques, in fact, cannot express such phrases as "I have," "I hold," "I eat," "I drink," otherwise than by "I have it," "I hold it," "I eat it," "I drink it," &c.

L.-L. BONAPARTE.

San Remo: Jan. 30, 1882.

If Prince Bonaparte thinks that I want to disguise his words in order to attack his theory, he is wrong. His unscientific explanation of a very simple question is not an iota better for adding the "suppressed words" to the incriminated sentence.

As my criticism bears entirely (and I think with the weight of each word) on Prince Bonaparte's theory, I have not to add one word to what I said; others will judge. I only must say that the supposition which I simply proposed for the sake of clearing up the question was precisely meant for those who have extraordinary theories about Basque grammar; to my mind, the question is very plain, and wants no help from examples.

W. VAN EYS.

PS.—The following corrections should be made in my letter which appeared in the ACADEMY of January 21:—For *narak*, read *nazak*; for *n-erak*, read *n-esak*; for "me non so," read "mi non so."

THE ORIGIN OF THE ARABIC NUMERALS.

London: Jan. 30, 1882.

As I have given some attention to the ciphers and numerals used among Semitic populations, will you allow me a few remarks on this interesting subject raised by the Rev. Isaac Taylor's paper?

The French scholar de Rougé communicated years ago to the Académie des Inscriptions a list of ciphers taken from Egyptian hieratic papyri, and remarked then that we could trace in them the process of decay which by means of ligatures generated conventional signs out of simple strokes. The signs in this list (republished in de Rougé's *Grammaire*) give such striking parallelism with the so-called Arabic ciphers that they are, I think, generally accepted by Egyptologists as their prototypes.

As the Phœnician alphabet was derived from the Egyptian hieratic signs, it is natural to believe that the ciphers came from the same source. The Phœnician ciphers are, in fact, clearly derived from the Egyptian hieratic signs. In the Sabæan inscriptions the ciphers 10 and 50 are derived from the Egyptian; but 5, 100, and 1,000 are expressed by the initial letters of each of those numerals.

In Egyptian the strokes used to express the units are straight or horizontal: the ligature of the two lines gave 2 (see S. Levi's *List of Hieratic Signs*, 532 and 576); the three strokes, 3 (577); the four strokes, two and two over one another, gave 4 (534 and 578); the five strokes gave 5 (535)—but this number was often expressed by a star, not only because it has five rays, but also on account of its name, *tau*, which is the word for "five" in Egyptian. After five, the system of ligatures shows that the second series of units was formed by combining the ciphers of the first: $5 + 1 = 6$, $5 + 2$ or $3 + 4 = 7$, $4 + 4 = 8$, $3 + 3 + 3 = 9$; for 6 and 7 this is evident (536 and 537); for 8, the cipher for the days of the month proves it, because it is simply 4 twice repeated (538 and 582). The cipher 9 is written slanting, and recalls to mind the Babylonian cuneiform abbreviation for 9 (A. Sayce's *Grammar*, 398). The cipher for 10 was in Egyptian an inverted U, then by closing it the 0 was formed. It

may be objected that the ciphers are written in Egyptian from right to left and in Arabic from left to right, but the hieratic numerical signs again give us the explanation. For the tens, the ciphers were not written always one next to the other, but often one over the other; for instance, 20 was written by the cipher 2 with the sign for 10 under and a little to the right (S. Levi's *List*, 541), so that we see here the origin of the rigorous decimal system. This system was no doubt developed in India, whither the Egyptian ciphers were carried, I believe, by the early Kushite traders. It may be that the writers of the Bactro-Pali alphabet have altered the forms of some of the ciphers to make them correspond in shape with the initial letters of the numerals, as the Sabaeans did for 5, 100, and 1,000, and perhaps the Romans for 100 and 1,000. G. BERTIN.

THE MANUMISSIONS IN THE LEOFRIC MISSAL.

London: Feb. 7, 1882.

Mr. Bradley seems to admit the probability of Swuran tun of the Missal being Svrintonne of Domesday; but he thinks the latter is Sourton. The question thus becomes one of Domesday interpretation, where there are certain data to go upon; and if Mr. Bradley will look at the dimensions and value of Svrintonne, he will be convinced that they cannot apply to Sourton, which, though of considerable area, comprises a large extent of heath and moorland.

I agree that the modern form of Bræg would be Bray. This was suggested to me by Prof. Earle, and by me, as a query, in 1876. But I know of no manor called Bray nearer than High Bray, in North Devon, four miles north-west of North Molton, which is out of the question. Breage, near Helston, was dedicated, not to St. Breock, but to St. Breaca (Oliver, p. 437). Some particulars of her life are in Leland (Itin. iii., fol. 4). I admit that no properly instructed person would write Bræg for Bryeg; but the Exeter scriptor was probably no etymologist, and spelt names by sound only, as did the Domesday Commissioners.

JAMES B. DAVIDSON.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, Feb. 13, 5 p.m. London Institution: "The Border Line between Farce and Comedy," by Mr. H. J. Byron.
8 p.m. Society of Arts: Cantor Lecture, "Recent Advances in Photography," III., by Capt. Abney.
8.30 p.m. Geographical: "The Birthplace and Cradle of the Marhatta Power in Western India," by Sir Richard Temple.
TUESDAY, Feb. 14, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "The Mechanism of the Senses," V., by Prof. J. G. McKendrick.
8 p.m. Colonial Institute: "The Progress of Canada and the Development of the Great North-West," by Col. T. Hunter Grant.
8 p.m. Civil Engineers: "Air-Refrigerating Machinery and its Applications," by Mr. J. J. Coleman.
8 p.m. Photographic.
WEDNESDAY, Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Society of Arts: "The Art of Turning," by Mr. P. N. Hasluck.
8 p.m. British Archaeological: "Recent Researches and Excavations in Scotland," by Dr. Phœnix.
THURSDAY, Feb. 16, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "Geographical Distribution of Animals," by Dr. P. L. Sclater.
5 p.m. Hellenic: "Notes on the Characters of Theophrastus," by the Rev. E. L. Hicks; "Hermes on a Patera from Bernay," by Dr. G. Waldstein; "Samotheace and the Cabiri," by Mr. J. Stuart Glennie.
7 p.m. London Institution: "The Economical Use of Coal-gas for Lighting and Heating," by Prof. H. E. Armstrong.
8 p.m. Linnean: "Potato Disease and the Theory of Fungoid Parasitism," by Mr. A. Stephen Wilson; "Shells of Aden," by Lieut. T. F. Cockburn.
8 p.m. Historical.
8.30 p.m. Antiquaries.
FRIDAY, Feb. 17, 8 p.m. Philological: "The Distribution of the Accent in Greek," by Mr. C. B. Cayley; "The Aesthetics of Translation, illustrated from Different Versions of the Bible," by Mr. B. Dawson.
8 p.m. Society of Arts: "The Depreciation of Silver as it affects India," by Mr. J. M. Maclean.
9 p.m. Royal Institution: "The Breathing of Fishes," by Prof. J. G. McKendrick.
SATURDAY, Feb. 18, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "The Iliad and Odyssey," by Mr. W. Watkiss Lloyd.

SCIENCE.

THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE CAMBRIDGE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

Transactions of the Cambridge Philological Society. Vol. I. From 1872-80. Edited by J. P. Postgate, M.A., Hon. Secretary. (Trübner.) Mr. Postgate, the indefatigable secretary of the Cambridge Philological Society, has in this volume presented England—I hope I may add America and the philologists of Europe generally—with a really interesting and valuable *précis* of some of the results of philological activity at Cambridge during the last eight years. Its contents are of the most multifarious kind, from restorations of desperate Lucilian passages by Munro; lexicographical articles and learned monographs by Mayor; discussions on Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, by Dr. Kennedy, Mr. Paley, Prof. Jebb, Mr. Verrall; on Aristotle, by Mr. Henry Jackson; on Propertius, by Mr. Burn and Mr. Postgate—to remarks on Mr. Roby's predicative dative, by Mr. Allen; English etymologies, by Mr. Skeat; Scandinavian inflexions in English, by Mr. Magnusson; the wanderings of Io, by Mr. Birks; Greek army doctors, by Dr. Hager; Etruscan numerals, by Mr. Fennell; inscriptions, by Mr. S. Lewis, Canon Raine, and Mr. C. W. King. Appended to these are five articles on Homer, Plato, Aristotle, Propertius, Servius, in 1880, by Messrs. Leaf, R. D. Hicks, H. Jackson, J. P. Postgate, and Prof. H. Nettleship, of Oxford, respectively. These give a *résumé* of what has been written in England and abroad on these authors in that year. Mr. Nettleship's is of these perhaps the most learned, though somewhat heavy in style; Mr. Postgate's, as might be expected from the subject, is the lightest and most readable. His estimate of Palmer and Bährens is judicial and, on the whole, as fair as may be expected from a rival editor. Mr. Leaf's review of Homeric criticism in 1880 is modest, and just long enough to make one wish for a little more; Mr. H. Jackson's of Aristotle is disappointingly short. The volume is interesting to non-Cambridge, especially to Oxford, men, as showing who are the foremost scholars in the rising generation. The exalted positions which the classical tripos ideally confers do not always correspond to the subsequent eminence of their possessors; and there are many who will not take their opinion from a careful study of the class-lists, but prefer to judge men by what they write. Speaking from this point of view, and in total ignorance of actual position in any class-list, the present writer would venture to call attention to the excellent notes supplied by Mr. Ridgway on Aristophanes, Sophocles, and Homer (pp. 210, 244), and on *Σειπρος ἀσθήνη*, in Hes. (p. 415, by Mr. J. B. Pearson. Those who treasure up every opinion of the greatest Greek scholar Cambridge has produced since Dobree will read with pleasure some papers, unfortunately too little in compass, by the late Richard Shilleto. Such as are interested in the games of the ancients will find their curiosity repaid by Mr. H. Jackson's article on ἀζύξ and Mr. Maddock's on a marble tablet on which are engraved the divisions of a backgammon board. The former of these, as given in full in the *Journal of Philology*, is, if we mistake not, one of the most important contributions to a very obscure subject that has been made by a modern writer. Mr. Paley appears in his usual character in these *Transactions*, many-sided, ingenious, and not wholly convincing. His note on the Abu-Simbel inscription (p. 298) is worth consideration; and he has the merit of contributing a collation of a new MS. of Demosthenes' *de falsa Legatione*. It is perhaps a little disappointing to find that two writers so well known and so interesting as Mr. Munro and Prof. Jebb are only scantily represented in

the present volume. Dr. Hayman's lengthy articles on the connexion between the legends of Greek tragedy and heroic myth (pp. 213-38) and on Prof. Paley's post-epic or imitative words in Homer, though not without value, are heavy, and take up a disproportionate amount of space. But, speaking generally, the *Transactions* are lively enough, and prove the expansiveness of the examination system in force at Cambridge as contrasted with the deplorable tightness of that which exists in the sister university. It is well known that lectures to classmen on some subjects at Oxford are nearly an impossibility—e.g., Lucretius Euripides Pindar—and that, if they are given, it is under protest from the paymaster, who complains that such subjects are above the heads of most of the men lectured. The wide range of the classical tripos makes this impossible; and the present volume shows that the system inaugurated by Thirlwall and his contemporaries cannot be accused of narrowness either in selection of subjects or mode of treatment. But what lecturer at Oxford has not felt the cramping effects of *crambe repetita*? R. ELLIS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. PATRICK GEDDES ON THE NATURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE YELLOW CELLS OF RADIOLARIANS AND COELENTERATES.

London: Feb. 6, 1882.

In a communication to the ACADEMY of last week "Justitia" charges me with, among other things, ascribing to Mr. Geddes' essay on the above subject "a novelty" which "would seem to have no foundation."

The first count is that I attribute to Mr. Geddes the discovery of chlorophyll in *Convolvata*, *Hydra*, or *Spongilla*, which Mr. Geddes, as "Justitia" says, "has certainly never attributed to himself." I am equally innocent with Mr. Geddes. My words were that "he proved that such animals as *Convolvata*, *Hydra*, and *Spongilla* vegetated by their own intrinsic chlorophyll;" and this "Justitia" confirms by describing his experiment on *Convolvata* itself.

"Mr. Geddes collected the oxygen given off in sunlight by a green-coloured Planarian, which led him to infer that the green colour was chlorophyll, and that the oxygen was given off through its agency, as in plants."

I did not refer to the discovery of chlorophyll in the bodies of these animals, but to the discovery of its function—that is, the fact that they vegetate by it. The mere presence of chlorophyll in an animal may be accounted for in another very different way: it may have been taken in as food; and there was no call on me to name the discoverers of its presence—whom "Justitia" is so anxious to bring forward—since abstracts of papers in the ACADEMY are not accompanied by a bibliography of the whole subject. In claiming for Mr. Sorby the statement that "chlorophyll-bearing animals must have a plant-like nutritive process," "Justitia" claims for him only the gift of prophecy. It was left to Mr. Geddes to prove it.

As to the second and main count of my ascribing to Mr. Geddes the discovery of the unicellular algae, I stated clearly that "Cienkowski and others had contended that the yellow cells in question were algae, for this reason, among others, that they continued to live and multiply long after the death of the animal."

This sufficiently shows that others had worked with some success at this subject. To travel farther into the field of bibliography is, as I have said, beyond the scope of an abstract. Of the authorities quoted, K. Brandt has done the most; but his researches published in November last can hardly gain priority, since Mr. Geddes made his investigations in October.

As for Mereschkowsky, whose authority "Justitia" cites, he quotes from Mr. Geddes! and Semper is in exactly the same position as Mr. Sorby. He justly remarks, in regard to his own speculations on this subject: "No decisive answer can be arrived at by this method, and only experiment can find one." Mr. Geddes has made the experiment.

Thirdly, "Justitia," in trying to make out that I claim for Mr. Geddes the discovery of symbiosis or consortium, points out (as if I had omitted reference to it) that this phenomenon "has been widely recognised since the demonstration of the nature of lichens by Schwendener." Now it will be apparent to any impartial mind that the main object of my abstracting Mr. Geddes' paper was to point out, as I do, the analogy of the present case to that of the lichens.

"Justitia" finishes by saying,

"It remains yet to be determined how far these minute chlorophyllaceous corpuscles present in the tissues of some of the lower animals are really symbiotic organisms like the gonidia of lichens—how far their presence is due to their having been incepted as food (intracellular digestion), and how far they are products of the tissues themselves in which they occur."

In regard to this, I can only recommend a perusal of Mr. Geddes' paper with greater care than my anonymous assailant has taken in bringing these charges against me.

In conclusion, I cannot pass by the short homily on scientific morality which "Justitia" preaches to me, with doubtless the praiseworthy desire that I should mend my practices. I have shown that it was not needed.

GEORGE MURRAY.

"MIMETISM" OR "MIMICRY."

London: Feb. 6, 1882.

Will you allow me to point out that, in his review of Dr. Cooke's *Freaks and Marvels of Plant Life*, Mr. Grant Allen appears entirely to have overlooked the difficulty in the way of Messrs. Bates and Wallace's explanation of the phenomena of so-called "mimicry"—viz., the absence of any utility to the "mimicking" species in the early stages of the change? Some utility in every step is essential to the hypothesis of natural selection; and to this objection no satisfactory reply has yet been given. In view of this difficulty, it is surely not altogether beside the question to point out that instances occur in the vegetable kingdom of equally close resemblances, the only apparent explanation of which, as Mr. Allen himself says, is that of "like conditions producing like results;" and to suggest that this may also possibly be to some extent the cause of so-called "mimetic" resemblances. That Mr. Allen does not carefully distinguish between two very different things would appear from his phrase "the doctrine of evolution and natural selection;" these are, in fact, two totally distinct hypotheses, many who entirely accept the first being unable to admit the adequacy of the second to produce the multifariousness of animal and vegetable life. Mr. Grant Allen is severe on Dr. Cooke for his use of the term "mimicry." Can the censor himself justify his own and Mr. Bates's use of it, if we are to recur to the strict meaning of words? In that case, surely "mimicry" implies a conscious imitation—an idea which Mr. Allen at all events would entirely disavow in the case of the South American butterflies.

ALFRED W. BENNETT.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

A PAPER has been discovered in the archives of Venezuela, dated 1780, which gives an historical summary of early projects for piercing the Isthmus of Panama. The first goes back to the reign of Philip II. of Spain, who, at the instigation of the Viceroy of the Indies, sent certain Flemish engineers to investigate on the spot the feasibility of the undertaking. Their report was altogether adverse; and thereupon Philip II. threatened the penalty of death against whoever should again bring up the project.

MR. A. EASON AND MR. GEORGE ANDREW are about to proceed to Yunnan-fu for the China Inland Mission, after spending some time in learning Chinese at Kweiyang-fu. An Englishwoman, the first of her sex to venture the journey, has lately started from Shanghai for Juning-fu, in the Honan province, in the person of Mrs. Hunter, the wife of another member of the same society.

DURING his lengthened residence in Western China, Mr. E. Colborne Baber, we believe, was so fortunate as to avoid any collision with the natives, and would seem to have moved about the distant province of Szechuen pretty much as he liked. His successor, however, has not been equally fortunate, perhaps from lack of Mr. Baber's well-known *bonhomie*; at any rate, he has been attacked by a Chinese crowd, and the house in which his servant took refuge was destroyed.

A LETTER has been received from the French explorer Dr. Crevaux, dated December 21, in which he states that a steamer has been placed at his disposal by the Emperor of Brazil. In this he intends to proceed up the River Pilcomayo, with a view to investigate the practicability of a trade route between the interior of Bolivia and the Argentine Confederation.

M. MIZON, whose departure to join M. de Brazza on the *Alima* we have before alluded to, has sent to the French Committee of the International African Association a brief report on the Upper Ogowe country, dealing with its products and the trade which might be done there. Among other things he mentions caoutchouc and palm-oil; he also says that wild pines abound in the forests, and that the natives employ the fibre they get from them for various purposes, including nets for catching game and fish.

M. P. GAFFAREL discusses in the *Revue de Géographie* the question whether America was known to the Greeks and Romans. This he answers in the negative; but, on the other hand, he gives credence to the story that a canoe, with American Indians in it, was washed ashore on the coast of Germany shortly after the conquest of Gaul by the Romans.

IN the February number of the *Monthly Record of Geography* we find Mr. Joseph Thomson's interesting notes on the basin of the River Rovuma, which he explored last year in the vain hope of finding coal for the Sultan of Zanzibar. Mr. Chauncy Maples also contributes a paper on a neighbouring and previously unknown part of East Africa. In the *Geographical Notes* some interesting archaeological information has been got together respecting the Caroline Islands from Capt. Maxwell's official report on a recent cruise among the West Pacific groups, and a sketch is given of the Rev. S. H. Edgerley's exploring journey up the Old Calabar or Cross River. On the same side of the African continent, but south of the Portuguese possessions, Père Duparquet has for some time been studying the region between the Cunene and the Orange Rivers from both a missionary and a geographical standpoint; and we have here a digest given us of the information he has collected regarding the Ovampo

tribes, &c. The last note is a *résumé* of a contribution to a German serial on the Great Wall of China by Dr. von Mollendorf, who seems to have expended a good deal of time and pains in arriving at a conclusion which was well known to Europeans in North China more than twenty years ago. The remainder of this month's number is chiefly occupied with reports of proceedings of foreign societies. A map on an unusually large scale is given of the Rovuma River and the country to the south, illustrating the journeys of Messrs. Thomson and Maples.

SCIENCE NOTES.

Electrical Resistance of a Vacuum.—The opinion has long prevailed that vacuum space is a non-conductor of electricity. If the electrodes of a vacuum tube, which can be gradually exhausted, be connected with a Ruhmkorff coil or other source of electricity of high tension, it is observed that the discharge passes more and more readily as the rarefaction is increased. At a certain state of the rarefied air, however, a limit seems to be reached; and, if the exhaustion is continued beyond this point, the resistance in the tube increases, and finally becomes apparently so great that the discharge ceases to pass. The air pressure at which this last phenomenon occurs is different in different tubes, as it depends upon the width of the tube, the distance apart of the electrodes, their nature, and their size. The above result has been confirmed by numerous observers; and the conclusion has been drawn that air (and other gases) when reduced beyond a certain state of tenuity is incompetent to transmit electricity. Prof. Edlund (*Philosophical Magazine*, January 1882) combats this view, and shows that there is another way of explaining the apparent absence of conductivity in a highly exhausted vacuum tube. He cites and discusses numerous experiments by Gassiot, Plücker, Hittorf, Gauguin, Wiedemann, and others, and gives very strong reasons for the view that the high resistance of the tube is due to an obstruction to the discharge which is set up at the surface of the negative electrode. This obstruction acts like a large resistance, though it is more probably of the nature of a counter-electromotive force. The actual resistance of the tube may therefore be regarded as composed of two parts, of which one depends on the length of the tube, and the other only on the nature and size of the negative electrode. The latter part is of insignificant amount until the pressure is reduced to the fraction of a millimetre, when it rises rapidly in value, and, as the rarefaction is continued, becomes so great as to stop the passage of electricity altogether, no matter how high the acting electromotive force may be. Prof. Edlund arrives at the conclusion that vacuum space, so far from being a non-conductor, is a good conductor of electricity. If this be so, and if the space which separates us from the sun readily allow electrical action to be transmitted through it, we shall be better able to understand the direct electrical action which the sun appears to exercise on our globe, and the variations of this action during the prevalence of sun-spots. We shall be able also to admit the measurements of those who have observed the aurora borealis (which undoubtedly consists of electrical discharges) at a height above the surface of the earth at which the tenuity of the air must be far greater than anything we can produce in our laboratories.

The Inter-crossing of Erratics.—It is curious to note the way in which the erratics in the glacial drift have in many cases crossed each other's tracks. On the assumption that they have been transported by floating ice, such a distribution presents no difficulty; while, on the hypothesis that the transport has been

effected by land-ice, the inter-crossing appears at first sight well-nigh inexplicable. The upholders of the iceberg theory have accordingly appealed to this anomalous behaviour of the erratics as strong evidence in their favour. As an answer to their objections, Dr. James Geikie, the great advocate of the land-ice theory, has written an interesting paper, which he has just reprinted from the *Scottish Naturalist*. So far from being antagonistic to his views, he holds that the distribution of erratics lends additional strength to his position. He regards the commingling of northern and southern boulders as due to the meeting of opposite ice-flows—*mers de glace* from different quarters. The ice of the two currents would, on coalescence, become deflected by mutual pressure, and, the junction between the two ice-sheets not remaining constant, would oscillate backwards and forwards. The paper is, in the main, an answer to the views of Mr. D. Mackintosh, a geologist who has done much good work in tracing the distribution of erratics, and who favours the iceberg theory.

DR. D. J. CUNNINGHAM, of Edinburgh, has been appointed Professor of Anatomy at the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland.

WE understand that Mr. F. M. Balfour, of Cambridge, has refused the Chair of Natural History in Edinburgh University, vacant by the resignation of Sir C. Wyville Thomson. The candidates now most talked about are Prof. E. Ray Lankester, and Prof. Young, of Glasgow.

EXPERIMENTS are being made to establish permanent communication between the two islands of Mauritius and Réunion by means of heliographs stationed high up on the mountains in each. The intervening distance is about 100 miles. Besides commercial and other advantages, it is hoped that the approach of storms might be anticipated by this means.

"THE EARTH'S TREELESS REGIONS" is the title of an interesting article by Prof. J. D. Whitney, of Cambridge, Mass., which will appear in the March part of *Science for All*.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN have published as a pamphlet the lecture delivered at the Midland Institute, Birmingham, by Prof. Robert S. Ball, Royal Astronomer of Ireland, which attracted so much attention when printed in *Nature* under the title of "A Glimpse through the Corridors of Time."

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

MESSRS. TRÜBNER have ready a *Dictionary of the Asante and Fante language*, called Tshi (Chee Twi), by the Rev. J. G. Christaller, of the Basel German Evangelical Mission. The book has also a grammatical Introduction, with Appendices on the geography of the Gold Coast and other subjects.

M. LOUIS HAVET, maître de conférences de philologie latine à la Faculté des Lettres de Paris, will succeed the late Charles Graux as editor of the *Revue critique* in the department of classics.

THE *Archivio glottologico*, edited by Prof. Aroli, will shortly publish a monograph by Signor Flechia upon "Place-names in Italy, France, Spain, and Portugal."

IN announcing the appearance of a new series of "Romanische Forschungen," to be issued by Deichert, of Erlangen, under the editorship of Herr Vollmöller, the *Revue critique* comments upon the tendency in Germany towards the excessive multiplication of learned serials. In this particular department there are already the *Zeitschrift für romanische Philologie* and the *Romanische Studien*.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

HARLEIAN SOCIETY.—(Friday, Jan. 27.)

GEORGE W. MARSHALL, Esq., in the Chair.—This being the annual meeting, the Report and balance-sheet were read by the Hon. Secretary. The number of members on the roll—namely, four hundred—had been maintained. "The Visitation of Yorkshire in 1564" had been published as the volume for 1881; and the Register section had published "The Registers of St. Thomas Apostle, London," for the same year. After paying all demands, the society has a balance of £504 with the bankers, in addition to an investment of £632 Consols. The publications in the press are the second volume of "The Visitation of London in 1633," under the editorship of Dr. Howard and Col. Chester; and "The Visitation of Cheshire in 1580," by J. Paul Rylands, Esq.; also "The Registers of St. Michael, Cornhill." The Earl of Arran was elected to fill the vacancy on the list of vice-presidents. Sir John Maclean and D. G. Cary-Elwes, Esq., who retired by rotation from the council, were re-elected; and J. Paul Rylands, Esq., was elected on the council in place of the late Mr. F. Barber. It was announced that any back volumes that were in print could be obtained by members only at the subscription price of one guinea.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—(Wednesday, Feb. 1.)

SIR PATRICK DE COLQUHOUN in the Chair.—Sir Collingwood Dickson read a paper on "Dr. Faustus and the Legends connected with him," contributed by Sir P. De Colquhoun. It was contended that Dr. Faustus was unquestionably an historical personage, as his death is mentioned by Geener, who compares him to Paracelsus, and as he is referred to in Luther's "Table-Talk." The oldest account of Faustus, in which it is stated that he was born at Roda, near Weimar, goes back to the year 1587.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—(Thursday, Feb. 2.)

EDWIN FRESHFIELD, Esq., V.-P., in the Chair.—Mr. Middleton exhibited some bronze bracelets, two silver finger-rings, and a few other objects found in the Roman villa at Fifehead Neville, Dorset. Both the rings bear Christian devices—one, the *labarum*, and the other, the *labarum* with a dove and olive branch. The coins found were principally of the times of Constantine and Gratian.—Mr. Baigent exhibited a drawing of the arms of Milton, or Middleton, Abbey, Dorset, from a window in Ibberton church, Dorset, which differ from the engraving in Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*, the baskets having a handle across the top, and the leaves projecting considerably above the baskets. The tinctures also are different, the field being azure, the baskets *argent*, and the leaves *or*. The letters J. T. occur round the shield, and are perhaps the initials of John Towning, rector about 1470, in whose time the church was rebuilt.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—(Thursday, Feb. 2.)

J. HILTON, Esq., in the Chair.—Mr. J. H. Middleton read some notes on Ashburnham House and the site it occupies. The paper described the various remains of the Abbey buildings of Westminster which form part of Ashburnham House—remains of all dates, from the eleventh to the eighteenth century; and the many changes of ownership which the house and its site had undergone were enumerated. It appears that the present house was built by Sir John Ashburnham, about 1630, and that there is distinct evidence to show that Inigo Jones was the architect.—Mr. F. C. J. Spurrell described the great collection of shallow pits on the north coast of Norfolk, and added accounts of similar large groups, such as the pen-pits and others, in various parts of this country and abroad. He pointed out that these great collections of pits, in contradistinction to minor collections, were all, as far as he knew at present, connected with the earliest traces of the use and manufacture of iron. Taken as a whole, he did not doubt that they were dwellings and true hut circles, and that they could be distinguished from iron or stone mines. The simplicity of their construction, and the comparatively

slight traces of permanent occupation in some instances, denoted their temporary use, and showed that they were the shelters and dwellings of tribes collected together for limited periods (probably in summer), and that the paucity of relics of utensils, &c., denoted poverty. It was possible that some of them might represent the huddling together of a population driven to extremity by an invading host, such as the Romans. In comparison with the largest groups of the true Stone age, they suggest a great increase in the population in general.—Mr. Spurrell exhibited a large collection of Palaeolithic flint implements from new situations, recently found in the gravels of the Thames, and the Darenth and Medway in Kent.—Mr. Middleton laid before the meeting a large plan of Westminster Abbey, showing the site of Ashburnham House.—The Rev. H. Kempton exhibited a parcel-gilt silver pomander, late sixteenth century, of the utmost beauty, opening out into eight segments, each forming a box inscribed for different scents. When closed, this object presents a surface delicately ornamented with naked figures and foliage chased in silver.—Mr. H. S. Harland sent a roughly chipped flint "skinning" knife from Yorkshire.—Mr. G. M. Atkinson exhibited an early eighteenth-century repeater watch in pierced and engraved silver case.—From Mr. A. E. Griffiths came a first instalment of portions of British urns and bones lately found at Hampton Wick.—Mr. Spurrell exhibited a small pewter cup, in shape like a posset-pot, contained in an embossed and gilt leather case.

PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Friday, Feb. 3.)

DR. J. A. H. MURRAY, V.-P., in the Chair.—The papers read were: (1) "Observations on the Partial Corrections of English Spellings approved by the Philological Society," by Mr. H. Vogin, of Amsterdam. Mr. Vogin proposed to keep a difference of spelling where there was a difference of meaning. He would also spell "would," *wulld*; "could," *cud*; "onion," *unyun*; "stomach," *stummac*; "of," *ov*.—Mr. Henry Sweet then proposed that the society should modify its corrections to meet the views of the American Philological Society, and give up the change of *ie* to *ee*, and of *oo* for *o*. He was asked to communicate with Prof. March on the subject.—(2) Mr. Sweet's "Notes on Points in English Grammar." The definition of a pronoun: it was a general noun, one of general application. "Special and general adjectives": "green, big," &c., being special; and "this, that, some, all, few," &c., being general, or of general application. The province of grammar: it deals with the general facts and laws of language, while a dictionary deals with the special facts.

TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—(Friday, Feb. 3.)

THE Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, President, in the Chair.—The Report of the committee was read. The preparation of the View of London, by van den Wyngaerde, the first part of which has already been issued, has required great care, and necessarily occupied much time; but the remaining portion is now in a very forward state, and will be ready for publication in a few months. It is proposed that, when several maps of a particular period have been produced, a volume descriptive of all of them shall be issued. By this means the repetition, which would be unavoidable in several descriptions, will be saved, and the further advantage of comparison of details will be obtained. Another branch of the society's work which is of paramount importance is that of registering the various changes that are continually taking place in London. For this Mr. Emslie has prepared a view of the excavations at Leadenhall, showing the relics of the old buildings; and Mr. Milliken has made several drawings on wood of houses that have been pulled down within the last year or so. These will be engraved, and form an Appendix to the Report. Another Appendix will consist of a notice of the articles in newspapers and magazines on London published during the year 1881. By the publication of an annual volume with these features, and others which may subsequently be added, the committee hope that a series of the greatest value in elucidation of the history of London may gradually be formed. Extracts from the Calendars of State Papers are being proceeded with, and will probably

be printed soon after the completion of Wynngaerde's View. In addition to these extracts, Mr. H. B. Wheatley has proposed to compile a handbook of London topography which should contain a rapid sketch of what has been done in the subject, and what is still left for a London Topographical Society to do. An account of the work done by other societies, such as the London and Middlesex Archaeological and the New Shakspeare, in advancement of the object all have at heart, will be added in an Appendix.

SHORTHAND SOCIETY.—(Monday, Feb. 6.)

CORNELIUS WALFORD, Esq., President, in the Chair.—The society have arranged to acquire the quarterly magazine, *Shorthand*, in which to publish their proceedings under the editorship of two members of the council.—Dr. Westby-Gibson exhibited a copy of the Letters of Junius published in 1771, containing a great number of brief notes in shorthand and cryptography hitherto undecipherable, but of which he (Dr. Westby-Gibson) had discovered the key. The book originally belonged to Horne Tooke.—Mr. J. R. Rundell read a paper on the nine vowel-positions of the "Civil Service Shorthand" method; and a discussion followed.

FINE ART.

THE OLD MASTERS AT BURLINGTON HOUSE.

(Second Notice.)

It seems hard that, after a hundred years of oblivion, the two fine works of Hugh Robinson which have been sent to the "Old Masters" exhibitions by Mr. Teesdale (one last year and one this) should not have been hung on the line. It is true that they are large and simple in design, and do not require close inspection to reveal their merit; but it would have been interesting to examine more nearly the handling of an artist so little known who, as a youth, painted these remarkable works when Reynolds and Gainsborough were at the zenith of their fame—works which, if they recall somewhat of the feeling of the latter artist, are original in style and execution. "The Piping Boy" is a charming composition, sober but sweet in its colour, excellent in drawing, perfectly simple and natural, without a touch of the false rusticity which Gainsborough affected, or the forced expression which Sir Joshua so often gave to similar subjects. When we know that it was painted before the artist was twenty-four, and that all the pictures he painted after he arrived at that age were lost in the sea about the time of the artist's death, it is plain that opportunities of examining his work cannot frequently occur. For this reason alone it is to be regretted that this picture should have been hung above the large, uninteresting, badly preserved Turner which occupies so large a space below it, and might have been hung nearer the ceiling with great advantage to itself. Nor are the works of Franz Hals so common as to make us satisfied with the position assigned to two of them in the second room. Both of them seem to be fine works; and his portrait of himself (88), belonging to Mr. Mainwaring, is of particular interest, and brimming with life and humour. A third Hals, Mr. Walter's "Portrait of a Man" (123), is not so characteristic, and is, moreover, much damaged, especially in one eye. It must, however, be admitted that "the line" in this room is well occupied.

The present exhibition affords a good opportunity for comparing the works of the English Teniers (Wilkie) with his Dutch original. Here are three scenes of card-players—one by the former (34) and two by the latter (85 and 93). Teniers has the advantage in pearly brightness of colour and expressiveness of touch, producing a greater result with less work, and achieving a general luminousness of effect which his English successor never quite reaches; but

Wilkie surpasses him in humour and variety of character, in truth of gradation both of colour and light and shade, giving (that is to say, in this picture of the card-players) a more perfect picture of a more interesting scene. Nor do I think that there is any figure in any of Teniers' pictures here that can compare in the perfection of its expressive drawing with that red-jacketed rustic who, with his back to you, is scratching his head in the vain hope of stimulating his brain. But this picture of Mr. Walter's is the highest level of Wilkie, and he reached it in a few pictures only, whereas Teniers varies little, and his level as a painter is therefore on the average much higher than Wilkie's. The Earl of Kilmorey's "Card-players" (93) and Mr. Samuel Sandars' "Le Chapeau rouge" (85), the pictures to which I allude, are only two out of several very fine specimens of the Dutch master now to be seen at Burlington House. The Earl of Strafford sends "Le Bonnet rouge" (89) and Mr. Alfred Buckley a "Temptation of St. Anthony" (84), in which the demons, by their batrachian character, are fancies singularly suggestive of the land of dykes and ponds in which they were bred. Of outdoor scenes by this artist, the Queen sends a "Kermesse" (88) of singular vigour; but of all the Teniers here none has more beauty than Col. Legh's "Skittle-players" (59)—beauty, such as Teniers knew, of clear Dutch air and silvery transparent sky—beauty also of composition (artfully accidental) of slanting post and tilted gable, of lines of straight dyke and curves of cloud and tree, of pleasantly disposed clusters of boors—composition, in fact, of one beauty out of many uglinesses.

Not the least interesting subject for study in this delightful room is the manner in which Scripture scenes were treated by Dutch artists in the seventeenth century. If any excuse were needed for their unlearned and untravelled fashion, it might be found in the fact that, to this day, ignorant peasants cannot realise scenes in which the characters have any other setting than their own, or have a foreign type of feature and unaccustomed clothes. What to us seems most incongruous in the Queen's picture of "Christ and Mary Magdalene at the Tomb" (117)—the broad-brimmed hat, the spade, the neatly trimmed box-edging—would seem natural enough to those who never dreamt of places where such things were not. That Rembrandt should, in this fine picture, have given us so majestic an effect of light, and such nobility to the angels—that he should, in spite of the commonplace I have mentioned, have invested the scene with so much supernatural grandeur and mystery—argues the possession of a very strong imagination. The contrast between the rich warm light of the sun which floods the garden and the glory which emanates from the angels is singularly impressive; nor does the picture want much of that dignity of design which is so visible in his etching of "The Raising of Lazarus," his "Woman taken in Adultery" (in the National Gallery), and his "Simeon" at the Hague. Notwithstanding these fine qualities, it cannot be compared in its beauty as a picture to the well-known work belonging to Mr. Boughton Knight (101), which has nothing supernatural about it except the genius of the artist. It needs the Catalogue to tell us that this interior of a large room, with a child asleep in a cradle and the two seated women, is a "Holy Family;" but for arrangement of *chiar-oscuro*, for transparency of dim light permeating through the whole large chamber, for subtle painting of the shadows on the wall, and the shades among the rafters, nothing finer has ever been done. That such a rich golden effect penetrating to obscure corners, and strongly illuminating woman and child, could be produced in reality by one poor candle is a question it would be ungrateful to discuss. If this

picture does not impress one with any special "holiness," it is at least not wanting in reverence—a quality which seems to me absolutely lacking in Jan Steen's "Marriage Feast at Cana" (54). What Rembrandt is to Raphael, Jan Steen is to Paul Veronese, and this picture of Mr. Walter's, if it has none of the dignity of the great Venetian, has much of his skill in composition. It is indeed admirably arranged and marvellously painted, and in the forward groups, especially, as fresh and sparkling as if painted yesterday. Full of invention, rich in human nature, unsurpassable in the easy rendering of every variety of substance and colour, a storehouse of human observation and artistic skill, it is an endless mine of harmless pleasure to all who can view it divested of any Scriptural significance. Reverence was not in the nature of Jan Steen, or, at least, it is not apparent in his art—except for burgomasters, perhaps. If not reverence, there is at least a sense of the dignity of both a burgomaster and his daughter in Lord Penrhyn's splendid example of this master (238). If we compare either of these figures with that of Christ in the "Marriage Feast," we see at once how difficult it was for the artist to imagine a dignity greater than that which he had seen. Such may have also been the case with Adrian van Ostade, but at least he had reverence for the unseen, and could paint it. Although the scene is a Dutch cottage, and the actors in the likeness of Dutch peasants, there is a spell as of true worship, a sanctity, homely but unmistakable, hushing the group surrounding the cradle of his "Nativity" (91). Mr. Walter may well be envied the possession of this precious picture. It is the real scene from the New Testament translated into Dutch. Of this, the most refined and tender in feeling of all the Dutch painters in small, there are several other choice examples here. Mr. Alfred Buckley's "Schoolmaster and Scholars" (120) is, perhaps, the finest of these, as it is the most interesting; but Mr. Walter's "Man looking out of Window" (116) and the Queen's "Boor and his Wife" (114) are so excellent that comparison is difficult.

Among the other Dutch pictures not previously alluded to in these pages, but very worthy of attention, are the Ouyts, Sir George Phillips' "Landscape" by Paul Potter (69), Mr. Walter's two perfect examples of Maas (98 and 103), and Rembrandt's magnificent sketch of his "Cook," which belongs to Mr. Boughton Knight (234). No reference to Sir David Wilkie's work as seen in this exhibition should close without notice of his unfinished picture of "School," lent by Mr. John Graham (255). What there is of it was painted in the year of his death, and could scarcely be finer. Masterly it is, and luminous enough to make Turner, if he had seen it, add yet more black to the funeral sail that droops above his "Burial of Wilkie."

COSMO MONKHOUSE.

THE EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT PHILAE.

ASSAULT: Jan. 4, 1882.

In February last year an American, who modestly concealed his name in his written appeal to the public to preserve the result of his labours, partly excavated a very interesting early Christian church of basilican plan upon the Isle of Philae, and left a sum of money for the completion of the work, which has been well and effectively done.

The church is situate a little to the north of the Great Temple of Philae, and the apse seems to point somewhat to the east of north. It is a building of considerable size, and is mainly constructed of ancient hewn stones, many of which bear Egyptian sculptures in relief, hieroglyphic inscriptions, and royal cartouches. At the north-eastern angle, outside these, is a boldly

sculptured cross within a border. The walls of the apse and lateral chapels seem to have been entirely built of hewn stone; but, while the rest of the walls of the church were of the same massive construction, to the height of seven feet from the pavement, the fabric above that elevation was made of crude brick. The church was divided into four portions:—(1) the nave proper, with a narrow space extending at the same level as far as the steps leading up to the side chapels; (2) an area of considerable size raised one step above the nave, and probably originally separated from it by a screen with granite pillars, of which the bases still remain; (3) the altar platform, which projected forwards at the height of one steep step in front of the apse; and (4) the apse itself, with a lateral chapel at the same level upon either side. There are two doorways in the east and west walls, close to the south end of the nave, and four windows in the east and west walls respectively and one larger one in the south front. A small platform of stone in the floor of the nave near the eastern door may mark the site of the font; but there is another under the western side of the south window whereof the purpose is not obvious. A stone in the floor has one pair, and another two pairs, of incised footmarks, with Coptic inscriptions. In the west aisle, if such it may be called, is a truncated granite pillar, apparently *in situ*. The most interesting object, however, is found in the raised space immediately in front of the altar. Here a large slab of red granite is seen lying in the pavement; but excavations to the south have proved it to be the site of the monolithic Naos, chapel, or shrine of the great Temple of Philae, of which the only similar monument existing *in situ* is that in the Temple of Kdfou. The Philae monolith is externally eight feet two inches in height by two feet ten inches in width, and internally three feet five inches by one foot seven inches. It is surmounted by a frieze of uraei, below which are two winged disks, one above the other, and has a hieroglyphic inscription running round the top and sides. The glare of the midday sun was so great that I could not distinguish upon it the cartouche of any king. In front of this monolith lies in the pavement another slab of blackish granite, of which the dimensions are seven feet three inches and a-half by three feet one inch. It may be hoped that, if these objects are removed, care will be taken to fill up the hole to the level of the platform, so as not to interfere with the plan of the church, for Egyptologists have hitherto showed far too little regard for the early Christian antiquities of Egypt. The apse and lateral *hekels* are about nine feet in depth. In the north wall of the apse was a niche carved in stone; it is sculptured with a sort of scallop design, with an elegant interlacing border, at the top of which is a cross. At the entrance of the apse stands a truncated granite pillar, which may, perhaps, have served to support the altar slab, although its height—three feet six inches and a-half—may seem excessive for that purpose. Of the side chapels, that on the west of the apse is entered by a door from the church, that on the east from the apse: in the latter is a stone altar. The internal dimensions of this basilica are as follows:—

	ft.	in.
South wall of nave to first step...	18	11
First step to apse	18	3
Depth of apse	9	0
	46	2
Platform in front of apse...	13	3
Width of church	35	6
Width of apse	9	9
Platform before the apse...	18	4

GREVILLE J. CHESTER.

Mr. Andrew McCallum partly cleared the

south end of this basilica in 1874, and discovered the font (a rude stone basin about two feet in diameter), which was then quite perfect.

AMELIA B. EDWARDS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DISCOVERY OF A WALL-PAINTING AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

London: Feb. 8, 1882.

An interesting discovery has just been made in part of the monastic buildings of Westminster Abbey.

The large upper hall in the western range, once occupied by the cellarer, is now divided up into rooms for a canon's residence. In the course of some repairs now going on, the canvas lining in one of these rooms was stripped off; underneath, fine oak panelling—Jacobean in date—was discovered, and under the panelling the wall was found to be covered with a well-designed painting of the time of Henry VIII. This painting is in black and white, done in *tempera* on plaster; the design, which is drawn with great boldness and freedom of execution, is strongly Holbeinesque in character. There is an oval shield, charged with France and England quarterly, with the lion and dragon supporters; at the sides, human figures growing out of flowing arabesque scroll-work, which covers the wall in large sweeping curves. The design is white, with black outlines and shading on a black ground. The discovery is an interesting one, as English wall-paintings of this date are very rare. The preservation of these examples is due to the fact that oak panelling was fixed over them before they had time to suffer from age or exposure. It seems probable that this decoration was executed soon after the suppression of the Abbey and the seizure of the monastic buildings by the Crown; hence, possibly, the introduction of the royal arms in so conspicuous a way. The part of this painting which comes on the outside wall seems to have perished from damp soaking through the plaster. A large part of the probably well-preserved painting on the inner wall still remains hidden, as it is only in one of the subdivisions of the Great Hall that the wall-linings have been stripped off.

J. HENRY MIDDLETON.

"RESTORATION IN ITALY."

London: Feb. 4, 1882.

I have read with interest the report of the meeting of the committee of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings, in the ACADEMY of January 28. To all who mean well we wish well, and well-meaning, assuredly, are the gentlemen of this society.

Yet, now and again, in some moment of haste, I feel that I could not be sorry to see that diligent body transported to another clime, and to see a new base chosen for its operations.

But that Italy should be chosen (our fair "Woman country" by "Earth's male lands" beloved) I had not hoped. Nevertheless, what must be must be. If the campaign is opened, I can wish it success. Let me only express a hope that the society will take pains to get very careful information as to what restorations are proposed, and as to the propriety of those already in progress.

The poverty of the Italian people is, perhaps, the best safeguard we can obtain that they will not too hastily destroy old work to make place for new. Indeed, there is wanted in Italy (more even than a society to force her to allow her neglected buildings to lapse and fall through sheer rottenness to the ground) a society furnished with money and taste that may help her to preserve some of her treasures from decay

while yet there is time. Such rottenness and danger of lapse had come already to the lovely *loggia* of the Bigallo. The Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings is possibly aware that this building has a "lean-to" roof which abuts upon the side wall of a certain orphan asylum. The venerable roof of the said asylum has been allowed from time immemorial to discharge its drippings upon the unprotected Bigallo. The result is easy to understand. The Bigallo rotted; its frescoes peeled. Fifteen years ago they were bright, and are well remembered by many. Incredibly quickly they disappeared. But for the timely energy of a citizen, Florence would have lost one of her most beautiful buildings. As to the manner in which the restorers' work may in this instance be done, I can form no present idea; but there is good reason, I think, to hope that the alarm so loudly expressed will prove to have been ill-founded. Pictorial art in Italy may have lost its ancient *motif*, but her craftsmen's traditions have at least not yet died out. I believe that the restoration of the Bigallo will be careful and reverent. From the window of the room I occupied in Florence the roof of the building could be seen. In mending that roof the restorers have placed new tiles only where it was absolutely necessary, which is to say that one-half perhaps will be new. The effect of this plan is not picturesque; that it is reverential none will deny.

In the case of the Bigallo, and in a hundred cases besides, the fault lies in the fact that they were not restored long ago. The builders have come too late, and not too soon.

I have seen it indignantly stated that the churches of Santa Felice and Santa Maria in Florence are to be restored. It may be remarked by the way that the last-named building has much stunted and unlovely herbage growing between the joints of the masonry on its *façade*. It is likely that these vegetables did not form part of the original design, and it is at least a tenable view that their removal would constitute a justifiable reparatory act. But be this as it may, and speaking now to the general question of church restoration, English or Italian, the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings does not seem to have it constantly in mind that quite a considerable number of people are still church-goers in the old sense of the word, and are even known (as Swift on a like occasion has remarked) "to take a sort of pride in the appellation." And many church-goers may think, after all, that a ruinous pile is less precious a thing than a water-tight place of assembly.

The Italians habitually neglect their buildings and the treasures of art which they hold. For one building or one fresco that the restorers have injured, there are dozens that have been allowed to fall prematurely into decay. The already considered case of the Bigallo and the frescoes of Andrea del Sarto in the cloisters of the *Recolleta* may be mentioned only as striking instances of neglect well-nigh universal.

ERNEST RADFORD.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

At a general assembly of the Royal Academy, held on February 6, Mr. Joseph Edgar Boehm, sculptor, was elected an Academician.

THE Assyrian collection of the British Museum contains a bronze flat bowl or plate, which, being greatly damaged, had hitherto been overlooked. On a recent examination, this plate has been found to be covered with Egyptian hieroglyphs. So far as can now be ascertained, the signs do not give any sense, and appear to have been only drawn as ornaments. It has been conjectured that the Assyrians

borrowed the pattern of their bronze plates from Egypt, and this specimen seems to confirm the conjecture.

THE evacuation of the great temple of Luxor will begin to take place almost immediately, and will be completed next month. The work of demolition and excavation will be commenced in October next.

WE hear that Mr. Tuer's handsome book on *Bartolozzi and his Works*, published less than two months ago, is almost out of print. The large-paper copies can no longer be obtained, and the price of the quarto edition will be raised immediately.

A VIEW of Hawarden Castle, the residence of Mr. Gladstone, has been engraved on steel for issue with the forthcoming part of *Our Own Country*, published by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, Galpin and Co.

THE first general meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies for the present year will be held at 22 Albemarle Street, on Thursday, February 16, at 5 p.m. The papers read will be "Some Notes on the Characters of Theophrastus," by Rev. E. L. Hicks; "Hermes on a Patera from Bernay," by Dr. C. Waldstein; and on "Samotheace and the Cabiri," by Mr. J. Stuart Glennie.

ON Monday, February 14, Messrs. Sotheby and Co. will begin the sale of the collection of engraved portraits formed by Dr. E. J. Waring in illustration of Granger's *Biographical History of England*, together with the MS. notes and additional portraits of the Rev. Mark Noble, author of the continuation of that work. The sale will also include a considerable number of etchings by the old masters, fancy subjects by Bartolozzi, proofs from the *Liber Studiorum*, &c.

THE seventh annual exhibition of paintings on china by lady amateurs and artists will be held in Messrs. Howell and James's galleries during the months of May, June, and July. All works will be submitted to the inspection of the judges, Mr. Frederick Goodall, R.A., and Mr. H. Stacy Marks, R.A.; and only such as are approved by them will be exhibited.

AT the meeting of the Archaeological Institute on February 3, a paper was read on "Ashburnham House" by Mr. J. Henry Middleton; and a resolution was passed unanimously condemning the transfer of this historic building from the Dean and Chapter of Westminster to Westminster School.

WITH the fall of M. Gambetta, both M. Antonin Proust and the Ministry of Fine Arts have disappeared. M. Paul Mantz takes his place, with the subordinate title of Director-general of Fine Arts, under M. Jules Ferry, Minister of Public Instruction. At the same time, M. Proust has been elected President of the Société de l'Union centrale des Arts décoratifs, which will hold an exhibition on May 1 in the Palais de l'Industrie. While giving all credit to M. Proust for the enlightened energy that he displayed during his short tenure of office, we cannot but regard the whole circumstances as proving the undesirability of making the administration of fine arts a branch of party politics.

THE literature and art of the *Magazine of Art* for February are almost equally good. It need scarcely be said that the article on "Bagster's *Pilgrim's Progress*," by Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson, is attractive for its style as well as its matter; and we hope that the excellent idea of "Byways of Book Illustration" will be well carried out. A lively sketch of "L'Atelier Bonnat," by Mr. Barclay Day; a clever anonymous note on Japanese art; and a very interesting account, by Mr. F. Cundall, of Hugh Robinson, the "unknown painter" of the "Boy flying a Kite" in last year's Winter Exhibition at Burlington

House and of the "Piping Boy" in this, fill up with remarkable vigour the spaces between the longer articles, such as the excellent and well-illustrated account of Alnwick Castle by the Rev. M. Creighton.

IF the object of *English Etchings* be, as we suppose, to extend the popularity of this popular art, we may congratulate the publisher and editor on a deserved success. "The Cock Tavern," by Mr. A. W. Bayes, in a recent number, was valuable both for its subject and for the technical mastery displayed. In the current number is a view of "Stonehenge" by night, which also deserves notice. We understand that it was etched from sketches made on the spot. From the nature of the case, the plate itself could hardly have been etched on the spot. Speaking generally, we doubt whether the advantages of open-air etching, which can achieve with a few strokes effects of air and light forbidden even to water-colours, are sufficiently realised. Etching, it cannot be too often repeated, has different possibilities and different limits to line-engraving.

IN the last number of the *Zeitschrift für bildende Kunst* is given a very forcible etching of a Gipsy's head, by Prof. Willem Linnig the younger. The same number also contains an interesting article on the domestic architecture in the Moselle district, by F. Everbeck, well illustrated by wood-cuts, and one on some pictures by Cornelius and Overbeck, by Veit Valentin. Gustav Frizzoni brings to a conclusion his series of papers on the Poldi-Pezzoli Museum at Milan, and Fr. Schlie continues his studies of the Flemish and Dutch pictures in the Archædual Gallery at Schwerin.

THE current number of the *Gazette archéologique* contains an interesting notice of a large collection of pottery found at the village of Cabrera, not far from Barcelona. The "find" clearly proves a necropolis dating back to the third century—before the Roman conquest of Spain. Some of the objects are of Greek workmanship—one vase, indeed, bears the name of its maker, Nikias; but the larger number are referred by M. Lenormant to native manufacture, being analogous to a rude kind of pottery that has been found almost everywhere along the shores of the Mediterranean, but has never before been discovered in Spain.

THE little town of Dinant, in Belgium, the birthplace of Wiertz, has long been desirous of obtaining for itself a monument of its great citizen in the form of a reproduction of his masterpiece in sculpture, "The Triumph of Light." A subscription with this object has now been opened throughout the province of Namur, and at Brussels.

MESSRS. DETKEN and ROCHOLL will shortly commence the publication, in twelve monthly parts, of an album containing specimens of the handwriting of the most famous Italian artists of the fourteenth—seventeenth century, reproduced by photography. Each part will contain twenty-five plates, and will be published at the price of twenty francs.

THE same firm have just commenced the publication of a fortnightly journal entitled *Archivio musicale*, which will deal with all branches of the subject. The annual subscription is twenty-four francs. Among the contributors we notice the names of Hanslick, Alsleben, F. Hiller, E. Naumann, Pougin, Gevaert, Reyer, Sir F. Gore Ouseley, Green, Duarte da Cruz Pinto, &c.

AN exhibition of industrial art will be held at Lille from March 15 to June 1 of the present year.

THE important work of the Scandinavian archaeologist, H. Undset, upon the first appearance of iron in Northern Europe, to which we

have before called attention, has been translated into German by Herr T. Mestorf, and published by Meissner, of Hamburg.

THE Swiss Kunstausstellung will visit this year five cities in turn. The exhibition will remain at Geneva until May 15; at Lausanne, from May 23 to June 15; at Aarau, from June 23 to August 15; at Solothurn, from August 23 to September 7; and at Bern, from September 15 to October 15.

THE section "Uto" of the Swiss Alpine Club has determined to purchase Herr Müller-Wegmann's splendid collection of mountain-profiles, panoramas, geological charts, and views. No less than 1,300 of these are the work of the proprietor's own skilful and diligent hand.

AMONG the "Vandalisms" to which *L'Art* has recently called attention are the proposal to "restore" by the "Pettenkoffer" process some of Franz Hals' matchless portrait compositions at Haarlem, and a brutal and destructive outrage in the studio of M. Ulysse Butin.

THE societies of the Union centrale des Beaux-Arts appliqués à l'Industrie and the Musée des Arts décoratifs are now fused in the Union centrale des Arts décoratifs. Its first exhibition will take place at the same time as the Salon, and will be called the Salon des Arts décoratifs. It will contain not only the works of decorative architecture, painting, and sculpture which are too large for the sister Salon, but works of all kinds of industrial art. It is much to be wished that some such exhibition, entirely free from trade influence, could be organised in London.

Correction.—In Mr. Hoskyns-Abram's letter on the "find" at Parkhill, Aberdeenshire, in the last number of the ACADEMY (p. 90), for "Lon" read "Lowe," and for "Walton" read "Wetton."

THE STAGE.

THE REVIVAL OF "THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL."

IT was not only in obedience to the sound theatrical maxim, "When in doubt, play 'The School for Scandal,'" that Mr. Thomas Thorne, now in sole command at the Vaudeville, revived that masterpiece of Sheridan on Saturday night. The revival of "The School for Scandal," now holding its place on the Vaudeville boards, is intended to be but the first—but certainly it will be one of the most brilliant—of a series of reproductions of our elder comedies. There is no piece which can be seen often with greater advantage or with more continuous delight; and the present performance is, on the whole, worthy, and in some respects remarkable. The history of "The School for Scandal" as an acting play is in many ways interesting. Produced originally at Drury Lane Theatre in 1777, and making a prompt success with a company whose individual fortunes have been traced in a recent book, it never fell into disuse or decay; its perpetual vitality being ensured, we must be well aware, not more by the uninterrupted brilliance of its literary execution than by the fact that even the most insignificant of its characters offers to the player the luxury of a good part. Even in the days which were almost the darkest for the English theatre—the days in which pure sensationalism was rampant, some twenty years ago—"The School for Scandal" was not wholly laid on the shelf, for comedians whose ambition was not satisfied by break-neck leaps

nor by plunges into real water were wont to have recourse to it on the occasion of a benefit, or when it was considered desirable that at any particular playhouse some tradition of stage dignity should be maintained. But neither in the time of its earlier success nor during the many periods of its occasional revival had it appeared capable of holding the stage for a long sequence of representations; and it was a perfect surprise when, at the Vaudeville, about ten years ago, a performance first organised for a benefit was continued for something like a twelvemonth. The fact was due in part to the vogue of the theatre, and in part to the presence of an admirable company which did much to justify that vogue. No representation of "The School for Scandal" at the Vaudeville can now be undertaken without provoking comparisons with that one, though a more recent revival—that which took place at the Prince of Wales's under the Bancroft management—is also necessarily borne in mind.

The present performance, we are safe in asserting, bears reminiscences of the two which we have just mentioned. It has taken—or retained—from the first Vaudeville performance not a little that is excellent in the way of the cast, and it has followed or surpassed the Prince of Wales's in the attention bestowed upon costume and scenic detail. The Prince of Wales's revival was made the occasion for the agreeable display of Mrs. Bancroft's blue china and of her rare marquetry. Among these treasures the most popular actors of the day in London tumbled about with some difficulty—a little impeded and a little effaced. It was shown us, too, how easy it is for even a successful actor to fail absolutely. Little better could be said of some of the most admired performers than that they proved themselves possessed of excellent intentions, and succumbed only after resolute endeavours. The Vaudeville stage—a small one, by-the-by; probably hardly larger than the Prince of Wales's—is occupied, though scarcely crowded, with quaint furniture and decoration. Lady Sneerwell's drawing-room is a fairly brilliant study for a painter of eighteenth-century life; and Joseph Surface's library, in which the most critical action of the play is conducted, is an apartment of rich sobriety, such as justifies Sir Peter Teazle's polite encomiums, and is in accordance with that breadth of good taste which led Joseph Surface to appreciate everything that was excellent—literature and society, ease and Lady Teazle.

Of the figures that remain to us from the first Vaudeville cast, Mr. Farren's Sir Peter is the principal. How far Mr. Farren's performance of Sir Peter falls below that of his father I am unable to indicate; it is the best performance of the part that is now to be got; for it is at once polished and serious, natural and generally refined. As a detail, it may be added that Mr. Farren's Sir Peter is fairly clear of senility. It is a too frequent mistake, as I chanced long ago to point out—when Mr. Farren himself did but just avoid it—to represent Sir Peter as an aged man. The internal evidence of the play discloses the fact that he was scarcely over fifty—an age at which he would be very likely to speak of himself to a young woman

as "an old fellow who would deny you nothing," and very sure to resent the remembrance of such an expression by his wife when both had lost their temper. With Mr. Farren, Sir Peter is a fair representative of Sheridan's notion of wisdom and honour: he is not altogether a study of an individual, but he is a type of sterling character in meretricious company. Miss Ada Cavendish plays Lady Teazle not for the first time, and of course her performance is not wholly independent of her marked personality. An actress's own personality is an enormous element in every representation she essays, but it counts for most of all in a part for which no exacting intellectual study is required—a part which lies, as Lady Teazle's does, pretty much upon the surface, and is that of a sayer of bright things rather than a doer of conspicuous deeds. The part was laboured on and polished by Sheridan continually, but it was always the witticisms of his heroine, and not her actions, that Sheridan cared about. Now just because of the real slightness of the character, taken in conjunction with the importance of the part, I cannot think Miss Ada Cavendish quite as well fitted for Lady Teazle as was Miss Amy Fawcett, who was wont to play it at the Vaudeville. The living comedian is of statelier presence, and of much more searching and studious intelligence, than was the young actress who died so untimely; but in her buoyancy there is less of spontaneity, in her vivacity less of the pure relish of youth. But Miss Cavendish knows her art; and into her present performance, as into her performance of the part at the Olympic some seven years ago, she brings many of the characteristics which belong to her less naturally. She learns to be ingenuous and learns to be gushing. Mr. F. Archer now appears as Joseph Surface; and if Joseph Surface's fascinations are less obvious than they have sometimes been, his subtlety of character receives justice, and every scene in which he appears is conducted with discretion. We do not prefer Mr. Archer's Joseph to the Joseph of Mr. Clayton (neither has the common fault of leaving his villainy too transparent); but we are glad to see again, on an important place on the stage, a conscientious actor too often in the background. Time cannot further be of any aid to Mr. Neville in the performance of Charles Surface; but he retains his great natural qualifications for a part that is gay and spirited, simple and sympathetic. Mr. Thorne is an excellent Crabtree. No one could bestow more of individuality on so small a part or on so crusty a character. Mr. Lin Rayne's Sir Benjamin Backbite remains the best I know. He is, of course, affected in manner; but how could affectations of manner be withheld from a versifier who was guilty of the supreme affectation of not publishing his pet lampoons and his least justifiable satires when the chance was offered him? Mrs. Arthur Stirling is as good a Mrs. Candour as we have seen since Miss Oliver. Maria, who at bottom is an *ingénue* more French than English, is represented with only too much intelligence by Miss Murray; but Mrs. Canninge is an insufficient exponent of Lady Sneerwell's engaging malice.

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

STAGE NOTES.

It is announced in the theatrical column of the *Daily News* that Miss Marion Terry will play the part of Bathsheba Everdene in the forthcoming performance of "Far from the Madding Crowd" at Liverpool, and that Mr. Charles Kelly—who, we may observe, is but seldom seen in London—will appear as Gabriel Oak. Mr. Arthur Wood will be included in the cast.

"A BED OF ROSES" is the name of a comédietta, designed apparently in chief for a capable "character actor," now given with success every evening at the Globe Theatre. Its author is Mr. H. A. Jones, who wrote, we believe, a novel of some mark, and who, besides some unimportant dramatic work, adapted for the stage the piece in which the heroine of "Leah" last appeared at Sadler's Wells. Mr. Wood enacts the chief part in "A Bed of Roses," and confirms by his performance the high opinion of him which has long been entertained by many critical playgoers.

MR. BURNAND'S comedy "The Manager" will be the next novelty at the Court Theatre.

MUSIC.

ON Monday evening, Mdme. Norman-Néruda appeared for the last time at the Popular Concerts; and many will regret that she has played so little this season, for she is undoubtedly one of the most accomplished of living violinists. The programme included Schubert's beautiful quartett in A minor (twentieth performance), Beethoven's sonata in F (op. 24) for pianoforte and violin, and the movements from the *suite* of Ries noticed last week. The novelty of the evening was a *larghetto* and *allegretto* (op. 10) for piano and violoncello (Mdle. Krebs and Signor Piatti) by Mr. A. C. Mackenzie. The theme of the *larghetto* is graceful and flowing. The short *allegretto*, which appears as an episode in the slow movement, forms an agreeable contrast, but in itself is not particularly striking. With the exception of one passage just before the *allegretto*, the piano plays throughout a very subordinate part. Mdle. Krebs gave as solo Bach's chromatic fantasia and fugue. She interpreted this difficult work with vigour and brilliancy. In the fantasia she played only single arpeggios, although Bach has indicated that each chord should be twice broken.

WE are pleased to notice that Mr. Henry Holmes, our excellent English violinist, has resumed his Musical Evenings. He has announced a series of five concerts at the Royal Academy, with Mr. A. Gibson as second violin, Mr. A. Burnett as viola, and Mr. E. Howell as violoncello. All the programmes contain works of acknowledged merit, but which have been heard repeatedly at the Monday Popular Concerts and elsewhere. Why should not Mr. Holmes introduce a few novelties, or works rarely performed? It may not be wise to over-dose the public with new works; but surely he might do something to encourage the composers, both native and foreign, of the present day. The first concert took place on Wednesday week. The two quartetts were Haydn in B flat (op. 55, No. 3) and Beethoven in A minor (op. 132). Mdme. Haas took part in Schumann's quintett with great taste and finish.

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